ESSAYS

ON

English Surnames.

English Surnames.

ESSAYS

ON

FAMILY NOMENCLATURE,

HISTORICAL, ETYMOLOGICAL AND HUMOROUS:

WITH CHAPTERS OF

REBUSES AND CANTING ARMS,

The Roll of Battel Abbey,

A LIST OF LATINIZED SURNAMES, &c. &c.

BY

MARK ANTONY LOWER.

"WHAT'S IN A *NAME?*"

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TO

CHARLES CLARK,

OF

GREAT-TOTHAM HALL, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, ESQ.

These Essays,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF

THE SURNAMES OF ENGLISH FAMILIES,

&c. &c. &c.

ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

I DOUBT not that the first impression of many persons casually taking up this little volume, and reading the title-page, will be, that a good deal of valuable time has been expended on a very useless subject. Well, it may seem so; but I trust that on further consideration it will be found to possess quite as much both of utility and interest as many others with much greater pretensions to importance.

Every person, even the most incurious observer of words and things, must have remarked the great variety that exists in the names of English families. He cannot fail to notice that such names are of widely different

significations, many being identical with names of places, offices, professions, trades, qualities, familiar natural objects, &c. I will go further, and say, there is probably no person capable of the least degree of reflection, who has not, in an idle moment, amused himself with some little speculation on the probable origin of his own name. It cannot, then, be a matter of *uninteresting* enquiry to investigate both the meaning of names and the causes of their application to individuals and families. It is not sufficient for a person of inquisitive mind that he bears such and such a surname because his father and his grandfather bore it: he will naturally feel desirous of knowing why and when their ancestors acquired it. And should he be successful in arriving at some probable conclusion respecting his own, the same or perhaps an increased degree of curiosity will be induced in his mind as to those of others. This feeling will be especially excited when he meets with names of odd or unusual sound. If, for instance, he walk through the streets of a town he has never before visited, and notice the names of the inhabitants on their doors or over their shops, differing from any he has before seen, he will derive some information, and probably extract no little amusement from the carrying out of a train of speculations on the origin of those names. To persons of this class, (and a very numerous class I think they form,) my present attempt will doubtless be accept-

able, and I venture to hope that it will serve to gratify all reasonable curiosity that can exist on the subject.

This volume is necessarily antiquarian in its character, and not therefore likely to interest those whose pursuits are of the strictly utilitarian kind, and who seldom spend a thought upon the past unless it be to subserve some present interest. Whatever the objections such individuals may raise against investigations like those before the reader, they would, at least to a certain extent, apply to the study of history, biography, and several other branches of human knowledge.

It is an enquiry not devoid of some interest, "What would the annals of mankind and the records of biography be if people had never borne proper names?" A mere chaos of undefined incidents, an unintelligible mass of facts, without symmetry or beauty, and without any interest for after ages. Indeed, without names, mankind would have wanted what is perhaps the greatest stimulus of which the mind is susceptible, namely, the love of fame; and, consequently, many of the mightiest achievements in every department of human endeavour would have been lost to the world. The absolute necessity of a personal nomenclature being thus proved, we are led to a further consideration, namely,

that as names were given to men, there must have been some meaning in them, (for it is most unphilosophical to imagine that it could have been otherwise,) and if it be admitted that they signify something, it cannot be useless to ascertain what that something is. Names are principally of two kinds; those of individuals* and those of families. The latter, for reasons hereafter assigned, have been denominated SURNAMES, and it is the origin and application of these we have to discuss.

I have just alluded to the great variety in English surnames. It would indeed be wonderful if it did not exist, seeing that, in the words of an eminent antiquary,† we "have borrowed names from every thing, both good and bad." Almost every list of surnames accidentally thrown together will, on examination, be found to yield some odd juxta-positions, the result of this extensive variety. Who can read a catalogue like the following without a smile, or perhaps a hearty laugh, while no one of the names standing alone could produce the least approximation to such an effect?

* The names of *individuals* are termed, in legal proceedings and in common intercourse, CHRISTIAN-NAMES. Camden calls them *fore* (that is first)-*names*, a term which I consider far preferable to the other. Perhaps the word *name*, without any adjunct, would be better still. We should then use *name* and *surname* as distinctive words, whereas we now often regard them as synonymes.

† Camden.

"I have seen what was called an 'Inventory of the Stock Exchange Articles,' to be seen there every day (Sundays and holidays excepted) from ten till four o'clock.

"A Raven, a Nightingale, two Daws and a Swift.
A Flight and a Fall!
Two Foxes, a Wolf and two Shepherds.
A Tailor, a Collier, a Mason, and a Tanner.
Three Turners, four Smiths (!), three Wheelers,
Two Barbers, a Paynter, a Cook, a Potter, and five Coopers.
Two Greens, four Browns, and two Greys.
A Pilgrim, a King, a Chapel, a Chaplain, a Parson, three Clerks, and a Pope.
Three Baileys, two Dunns, a ——, and a Hussey!
A Hill, a Dale, and two Fields.
A Rose, two Budds, a Cherry, a Flower, two Vines, a Birch, a Fearn, and two Peppercorns.
A Steel, two Bells, a Pulley, and two Bannisters.

"Of towns: Sheffield, Dover, Lancaster, Wakefield, and Ross. Of things: Barnes, Wood, Coles, Staples, Mills, Pickles, and, in fine, a *Medley!*

"Our House of Commons has at different and no very distant times numbered amongst its members—

A Fox,	A Hare,	A Rooke,
Two Drakes,	A Finch,	Two Martins,
Three Cocks,	A Hart,	Two Herons,
Two Lambs,	A Leach,	A Swan,
Two Bakers,	Two Taylors,	A Turner,
A Plummer,	A Miller,	A Farmer,
A Cooper,	An Abbot,	A Falconer.

Nine Smiths!!!

A Porter, Three Pitts, Two Hills,
Two Woods, An Orchard, and a Barne,
Two Lemons with One Peel!
Two Roses, One Ford, Two Brookes,
One Flood and yet but one Fish!
A Forester, an Ambler, a Hunter,
and only One Ryder.

"But what is the most surprising and melancholy thing of all, it has never had more than One *Christian* belonging to it, and at present is without any!"*

If English Surnames are remarkable for their variety, they are no less so for their number. How great the latter may be it would be a hopeless task to attempt to ascertain: it is sufficient to say with the Rev. Mark Noble that, "it

* Nares's Herald. Anom.

is almost beyond belief." A friend of that gentleman "amused himself with collecting all such as began with the letter A: they amounted to more than one thousand five hundred. It is well known that some letters of the alphabet are initials to more surnames than A: allowing for others which have not so many, the whole number will be *between thirty and forty thousand!*"*

The Rev. E. Duke, in his valuable and extremely curious "Halle of John Halle," starts the question, "whether the English nomenclature is or is not on the increase?" and he decides that, notwithstanding many of the older surnames become extinct every century, it is still on the increase, and he accounts for this singular fact by the following arguments: "Some [names] originated from the influx of foreigners caused by royal marriages—by refuge from persecutions—by expatriations arising from revolutions—by the settlement of alien manufacturers; and the names of many of these have often been altered and anglicised, and their posterity have in the bearing thereof become as genuine Englishmen. At other times fictitious names have started up and been perpetuated within our own country, from their adoption, in the removal from one part of the kingdom to another, by the criminal and by the insolvent.† Another

* Hist. Coll. Arms. Prelim. Diss.

† See the remarks on *sobriquets* at the end of my second Essay, for another cause of the multiplication of family names.

increment of names arises perhaps from the occasional settlement here of Americans and West Indians; for it is a certain and curious fact that although America was originally peopled from this country, yet it varies very essentially in its nomenclature from that of England."*

Our great master of antiquities, the illustrious CAMDEN, was among the first who paid much attention to English surnames. He has an amusing and learned chapter on the subject in his 'Remaines,' occupying, in an early edition, about forty-eight pages of that work. This forms the basis of all that can be said on English family names. After Camden comes Verstegan, who, though less accurate in his knowledge of the subject, gives many useful hints which serve greatly for the purpose of amplification. Among more recent writers, three clergymen, the Rev. Dr. Pegge, the Rev. Mark Noble, and the Rev. E. Duke, have each added something new in illustration of the subject. It seems that various other antiquaries have been labourers in the same field, whose productions have never seen the light. In Collet's "Relics of Literature," 1823, it is stated that,

"Mr. Cole, the antiquary, was very industrious in collecting names, and in one of his volumes of MSS. he says, he had the intention,

* Vol. i. Notes, p. 404.

some time or other, of making a list of such as were more particularly striking and odd, in order to form the foundation of an Essay upon the subject. A friend of the present writer has gone much farther, and has collected several thousand rare names, which he has partly classified."

The late Mr. Haslewood also appears to have done something of the same kind. He had a most extensive collection, which was disposed of at the sale of his library, but which I have not been able to trace to its final destination.

There are two manuscripts on Surnames in the Harleian collection. The first, No. 4056, "Origin of Surnames," is loosely written upon seven pages. It is a mere abstract from Camden, with scarcely anything additional, except a paragraph in which the writer differs from that author, (as it will be seen that I also do,) with respect to the precise date of the introduction of Surnames into England. The second MS. No. 4630, "The original or beginning of Surnames," is likewise from Camden, and has only a single original paragraph: of this I have availed myself at the proper place. Both MSS. form only portions of the volumes in which they occur.

Having thus mentioned what my predecessors have done, it may be expected that I should give some account

of my own humble labours. But as they are before the reader, I shall content myself with borrowing the words of Verstegan: "Because men are naturally desirous to know as much as they may, and are much pleased to understand of their own offspring [descent] which by their Surnames may well be discerned, if they be Surnames of continuance, *I have, herein, as near as I can, endeavoured myself to give the courteous reader satisfaction.*"

And, as I have been actuated by this desire, I deem it but justice to myself to state, that if I have assigned to any name a meaning that is little complimentary to the persons who happen to bear it, it has been the farthest from my intention to inflict pain in the mind of those individuals. So little was this my wish or my endeavour that I have, on the contrary, made it one of my chief objects to investigate the etymology of many names which have generally been considered to imply something low or disgraceful, and have proved, satisfactorily I trust, that they mean nothing that their possessors have the slightest reason to be ashamed of. Thus, while I have "filched" no one of his "good name," I have, I hope, been so happy as to make many a person upon better terms with his own appellative—which he may hitherto have considered (etymologically) anything but a *good* one—than he has ever been before.

The following paragraph, from a light and right pleasant article, entitled "Sound and Sense," in Chambers's Edinburgh Journal, I am loth to lose; and as a more appropriate place for its introduction has not occurred in the course of the following sheets, I give it room here:

"What gives peculiar force to the theory of the connexion of sound and sense, is the fact that where mean things are represented by words which do not sound meanly, those words may be employed as Proper Names, or as parts of other words, without conveying a mean impression. On a similar principle, mean things may be represented by words of grotesque sound in our own language, but not in another: and the words employed in that other language may be used as proper names, without appearing to us at all ridiculous. *Booth* is paltry as the designation of a temporary shop; but as a name it is felt to be so elegant as to be frequently chosen for fictitious heroes. *Brydges*, nothing as a common word, is one of the best of names. The same may be said of *Brewer* and *Taylor*. When a slight change has taken place in the adaptation of the word to its purpose as a proper name, the improvement is more marked. *Steward*, for instance, rises from kitchen to hall by the change of the *d* into *t*. *Durward*, apart from all recollection of its origin in door-

gentleman, and with many of which this publication is enriched. The reference to the two manuscripts in the British Museum I owe to the Rev. George C. Tomlinson, rector of Staughton in Huntingdonshire, whose polite and unsolicited kindness entitles him to my warmest acknowledgments.

The following works have been consulted:

Camden's "REMAINES *concerning Britaine*, but especially England and the Inhabitants thereof. The third Impression." Printed in 1623.

Verstegan's "RESTITUTION *of Decayed Intelligence* in Antiquities concerning Our Nation." 1605.

The ARCHÆOLOGIA of the Society of Antiquaries, vol. xviii. pp. 105-111, "Remarks on the Antiqnity and Introduction of Surnames into England. By James H. Markland, Esq., F.S.A." 1813.

"PROLUSIONES HISTORICÆ, or the *Halle of John Halle;* by the Rev. Edward Duke, M.A., F.S.A., &c." Vol. I., Essay I.

"A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF ARMS; with a *Preliminary Dissertation* relative to the different orders in England since the Norman Conquest. By the Rev. Mark Noble, F.A.S. of L. and E., Rector of Barming in Kent, &c." 1804.

The GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE, 1772. Several Essays, by Dr. Pegge, under the signature of T. Row (The Rector Of Whittington); and many subsequent volumes of the same periodical.

"A DISSERTATION ON THE NAMES OF PERSONS. By J. H. Brady." 12mo. London, 1822. With numerous manuscript additions by an unknown hand.

"CURIALIA MISCELLANEA, or Anecdotes of Old Times. By Samuel Pegge, Esq., F.S.A." 1818.

"The STRANGER IN AMERICA. By F. H. Lieber."

"An ENGLISH DICTIONARY..... By N. Bailey Φιλολογος." 9th Edit. 1740.

&c. &c. &c.

LEWES; 15th April, MDCCCXLII.

ERRATA.

*** The Author regrets that in several of the earlier sheets of the work a false, though not unusual, orthography of the word *sobriquet* has been employed.

P. 10, *l.* 5, *for sire-name, read sur-name.*
25, 3, as far the, as far as the.
P. 30, note, *for* or name, *read* a name.
44 *l.* 27, religion, religious.

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ESSAYS

ON

ENGLISH SURNAMES.

ESSAY I.

INTRODUCTORY.

DR. JOHNSON has the following definition of the word SURNAME: "The name of the family; the name which one has over and above the Christian name." SIRNAME differed originally from SURNAME. *Mac-Allan, Fitz-Harding, Ap Tudor* and *Stephenson*, are properly SIR-, or SIRE-names, and are equivalent to the son of Allan, of Harding, of Tudor, of Stephen. Of SURnames, Du Cange says, they were at first written, "*not* in a direct line *after* the Christian name, but *above* it, *between* the lines;" and hence they were called in Latin SUPRANOMINA, in Italian SOPRANOME, and in French SUR-NOMS, from which, I suppose, the English term is derived. A SURname is, therefore, a name superadded to the first or Christian name, to indicate the family to which the individual bearing it belongs, as Edmund *Spenser*, John *Milton*, Alexander *Pope*. Hence it is evident that, although every SIRname is a SURname, every SURname is

not a SIR-name; a distinction which is now scarcely recognized, and the two words are used indiscriminately by our best writers.

In the first ages of the world a single name was sufficient for each individual, and that name was generally *invented* for the person, in allusion to the circumstances attending his birth, or to some personal quality he possessed, or which his parents fondly hoped he might hereafter possess. The writings of Moses and some other books of the Old Testament furnish many proofs of this remark. This rule seems to have uniformly prevailed in all the nations of antiquity concerning which we have any records, in the earliest periods of their history. In Egypt we find persons of distinction using only one name, as Pharaoh, Potiphar; in Canaan, Abraham, Isaac; in Greece, Diomedes, Ulysses; in Rome, Romulus, Remus; in Britain, Bran, Caradoc, &c.

Nares says, names "were in remote times commonly given to mark the wishes of the parents, that the children so named might live to enjoy the good fortune such happy names seemed to promise: according to the old maxim, 'Bonum nomen, bonum omen.' Cicero used to call such names 'bona nomina,' good names; Tacitus, 'fausta nomina,' happy names. Plautus thought it quite enough to damn a man that he bore the name of Lyco, which is said to signify, a greedy wolf;* and Livy calls the name Atrius Umber 'abominandi ominis nomen,' a name of horrible portent. Pius Æneas may certainly be considered one of

* What is said of an ill-favoured visage, "His face would hang him," may also be said of an unhappy name; and our dramatists and novelists are well aware of this, when they give their most profligate characters such names as *Fagin*, *Sykes*, cum multis aliis, which will at once arise to the recollection of the reader.—M. A. L.

those *happy* names which Plato recommends all people to be careful to select,* and Æneas must have had as great a right to call himself by it as any persons since to call themselves by the names of Victor, Faustus, Felix, Probus, &c., which were certainly chosen as names of favorable omen, according to the maxim above, and the saying of Panormitan, 'ex bono nomine oritur bona præsumptio.'"

The first approach to the modern system of nomenclature is found in the assumption of the name of one's SIRE in addition to his own proper name, as Caleb the son of Jephunneh, Joshua the son of Nun, Melchi ben Addi (that is, Melchi the son of Addi), Ικαρος του Δαιδαλου, Δαιδαλος του Ευπαλμου, Icarus the son of Dædalus, Dædalus the son of Eupalmus. Sometimes the adjunct expressed the *country* or *profession* of the bearer, sometimes some *excellence* or *blemish*; as Herodotus *of Halicarnassus*, Polycletes *the Sculptor*, Diogenes *the Cynic*, or Dionysius *the Tyrant*.†

Another early species of surnominal adjunct is to be found in the epithet *great*, as Alexander THE GREAT; also in words expressive of other qualities—concerning which the author just quoted says: "There are some significant titles, names, and attributes, to which I have no objection, as for instance, Alfred *the Great*, for great he was; but as to Canute *the Great* I doubt; his speech to his courtiers on the sea-shore had certainly something sublime in it, and seems to bespeak the union of royalty and wisdom, but Voltaire will not allow that he was great in any other

* Had the parents of Alexander been blessed with the gift of prescience, they would certainly have hesitated before giving that "murderer of millions" a name signifying "the helper of mankind."—M. A. L.

† Nares's Heraldic Anomalies.

respect than that he performed great acts of cruelty. Edmund *Iron-side*, I suppose, was correct enough, if we did but understand the figure properly (for as to his really having an *iron side*, I conclude no one fancies it to have been so, though there is no answering for vulgar credulity). Harold *Harefoot* betokened, no doubt, a personal blemish or some extraordinary swiftness of foot. Among the kings of Norway there was a *Bare-foot!* William *Rufus* was probably quite correct, as indicative of his *red* head of hair, or rather head of red hair. Henry the First was, I dare say, for those times, a *Beau Clerc*, or able scholar. Richard the First might very properly be called, by a figure of speech, *Cœur de Leon*, and his brother John quite as properly, though to his shame literally, rather than figuratively, *Lack-land*. Edward *Long-shanks* cannot be disputed, since a sight was obtained of his body not very long ago, but at the least 467 years after his death, and which, from a letter in my possession, written by the President of the Antiquarian Society, who measured the body, appeared to be at that remote period six feet two inches long."* I fully agree with the facetious author of this passage, that these should be denominated nicknames rather than surnames. The same writer, speaking of the adjunct used by the Norman William, assigns to it the definition of Spelman, which differs from that in general acceptation: "Conquestor dicitur qui Anglia *conquisivit*, i. e. *acquisivit* (purchased) non quod subegit; . . . here agreeing," he humorously adds, "with the good old women who attended William's birth, and who having quite a struggle with the new-born brat to get out of his clenched

* Heraldic Anom. vol. i. p. 107.

fist a parcel of straws he happened to catch hold of (his mother, perhaps, being literally *in the straw*), made them say in the way of prophecy, that he would be a great acquirer."*

While thus digressing on royal surnames, I may be allowed to remind the reader that more antient monarchs had their characteristic epithets: thus in Rome, Tarquinius Superbus, Antoninus Pius; and in Egypt, Ptolemy Philadelphus, Ptolemy Epiphanes. I may also mention that France has had its Charles *the Bald*, Louis *the Stutterer*, Charles *the Simple*, Louis *the Sluggard*, Louis *the Quarrelsome*, and Philip *the Fair*; and that the house of Valois recounts among its sovereigns the favorable names of *the Good, the Wise, the Well-beloved, the Victorious*, &c. The Bourbons have had two *Great*, one *Just*, one *Well-beloved*, and one *Longed-for*.†

But to return: as society advanced in refinement, partly for euphony, and partly for the sake of distinction, *other* names came into common use. Thus among the Romans, three names, and sometimes four or even five, were used by a single person. The first of these was called the *prænomen*, answering to our Christian name. This name originally characterized the individual; thus the first Faber (like the French *le Fevre*, and our own *Smith*) was no doubt an artificer in iron or wood, while the primitive Agricola (like the first of the French *Fermiers*, and of our English family of the *Farmers*) was, in like manner, a cultivator of the soil. Their second name, called *nomen*, had a close analogy to the term *clan* as used in Scotland, and

* Heraldic Anom. p. 110. † Ibid.

species of nomenclature, some wag described *cheese* as being

> "Adam's own cousin-german by its birth,
> Ap-Curds-ap-Milk-ap-Cow-ap-Grass-ap-Earth!"

The following anecdote was related to me by a native of Wales: "An Englishman, riding one dark night among the mountains, heard a cry of distress, proceeding apparently from a man who had fallen into a ravine near the highway, and, on listening more attentively, heard the words, 'Help, master, help!' in a voice truly Cambrian. 'Help! what, who are you?' enquired the traveller. 'Jenkin-ap-Griffith-ap-Robin-ap-William-ap-Rees-ap-Evan,' was the response. 'Lazy *fellows* that ye be,' rejoined the Englishman, setting spurs to his horse, 'to lie rolling in that hole, *half a dozen of ye;* why in the name of common sense don't ye help *one another* out?'"

The frequency of such names as Davies, Harris, Jones, and Evans, has often been remarked, and is to be accounted for by the use of the father's name in the genitive case, the word *son* being understood; thus David's son became *Davis*, Harry's son *Harris*, John's son *Jones*, and Evan's son *Evans*. It is a well-attested fact that about forty years since the Monmouth and Brecon militia contained no less than *thirty-six John Joneses*.

Even the gentry of Wales bore no hereditary surnames until the time of Henry the Eighth. That monarch, who paid great attention to heraldic matters, strongly recommended the heads of Welsh families to conform to the usage long before adopted by the English, as more consistent with their rank and dignity. Some families accord-

ingly made their existing *sire*names stationary, while a few adopted the surnames of English families with whom they were allied, as the ancestors of Oliver Cromwell, who thus exchanged Williams for Cromwell, which thenceforward they uniformly used.*

Having thus glanced at the usages of various nations with respect to second names, let us next trace the history of the practice of adopting hereditary or family names in our own country.

* Vide Noble's House of Cromwell.

ESSAY II.

HISTORY OF ENGLISH SURNAMES.

THE antient Britons generally used *one name only:* sometimes, but very rarely, they added another in the manner of a Roman cognomen, as Aurelius *Ambrosius*, Uther *Pendragon*.

The Saxons had a peculiar kind of *sire-name*—the termination ING, signifying offspring, as, for instance, *Dearing*, *Atheling*, *Browning*, *Whiting*, meaning respectively, *dear*, *noble*, *dark* or *tawny*, and *white* or *fair*, offspring. More usually this termination was added to the father's name, "as Ceonred Ceolwalding, Ceolwald Cuthing, Cuth Cuthwining, i. e. Ceonred the sonne of Ceolwald; Ceolwald sonne of Cuth; Cuth sonne of Cuthwin. William of Malmsbury notes that the sonne of Edgar was called Edgaring, and the sonne of Edmund, Edmunding." * The difference between this species of names and the surnames now in use is great, for while the former were restricted to the immediate issue of a single individual, the latter are *generic* terms, including all the ramifications of a family, however numerous or widely spread. The antient practice seems (especially in such names as denote physical or mental qualities) preferable to the modern, because

* Camden's Remaines.

such qualities are not in their nature hereditary. Of this latter remark (were it not matter of common observation) every one must have noticed many ludicrous proofs in the most familiar surnames. For instance, a tall man, perhaps, bears the name of *Short*, while the most weakly person of your acquaintance is called Mr. *Strong*. Mr. *Meek* is, perhaps, from his passionate temper the terror of his family, at the same time that Mr. *Bright* is the dullest man in every company. In like manner a pale visage may accompany the name of *Blackman*, and the complexion of a Spaniard, that of *Lillywhite*. Mr. *Friend* is perchance your deadliest foe, and Miss *Pretty* the plainest personage in your neighbourhood. Similar instances might be adduced almost *ad infinitum*, did the occasion require it; my object is merely to show the absurdity of adopting, as the stationary name of a family, a designation, which, however applicable to the person who first bore it, could not in the nature of things be consistently employed by his posterity. In point of *convenience*, however, the hereditary method is infinitely superior to the other.

The Saxons sometimes bestowed honorable appellations on those who had signalized themselves by the performance of any gallant action, like the Roman Cognomina. Every person conversant with the history of those times will call to mind that England was much infested with *wolves*, and that large rewards were given to such as were able, by force or stratagem, to subdue them. To kill a wolf was to destroy a dangerous enemy, and to confer a benefit on society. Hence several Saxon proper names, ending in *ulph* and *wolf*, as Bidd*ulph*, the wolf-killer,* Ethel*wolf*,

* Burke's Commoners, vol. iii. p. 280. There is a parish called Biddulph, in Staffordshire.

and many others; but these, among the common people at least, did not descend from father to son in the manner of modern sur-names.

It may be remarked *en passant*, that the fore-names of the Anglo-Saxons are characterized by a beautiful significancy and simplicity. As many of these were afterwards adopted as family names, I shall take the liberty of digressing a little to give a list of some of them, illustrative of this observation.

ALWIN, all-victorious or winning all. *Camd.* All-beloved. *Verstegan.*

Alfred, all-peace.

Aldred, all-reverend fear. *Camd.*

Bede, he that prayeth; a devout man. *Camd.*

Botolph, help-ship—Sailors were called *Botescarles.*

Cuthbert, bright in knowledge.

Edmund, truth-mouth; a speaker of truth.

Edward, truth-keeper; a faithful man.

Frederick, rich in peace.

Goddard, one whose heart is devoted to the cause of God and of religion.

Godwin, beloved of God. *Versteg.* Victorious in God. *Camd.*

Hengist, horse-man. *Camd.*

Kenard, kind disposition. *Camd.* Elsewhere I have assigned a widely different etymology.

Leofwin, win-love.

Osbern, (house-bairn,) house-child. *Camd.* See anecdote in the Essay on Historical Surnames.

Ranulph, (now *Randall*,) fair-help.

Richard, rich in heart, benevolent.

Richer, powerful in the army.—*Herric*, says Camden, is the same name reversed; hence our modern surname, *Herrick*.

Raymund, quiet peace.

Thurstan, most true and trusty. *Camd.*

Walwin, (whence our modern surnames, *Yaldwin* and *Gawen*,) a conqueror.

No precise date can be assigned to the introduction of hereditary surnames into England, as personal soubriquets were known from an early period of the Heptarchy. That the old termination ING was gradually rejected from names, and that of SON substituted for it in the 10th and 11th centuries is evident from documents of that period, and I see no valid reason why such names as Herdingson, Swainson, Cerdicson, were not hereditary, as well as our more recent Thompson and Williamson. I am aware that Camden, and all our antiquaries since his days, concur in the opinion that surnames, of the hereditary kind, were not known in England before the Norman Conquest; yet I hope I shall not be deemed guilty of presumption if, by and bye, I offer a few suggestions in support of the opinion that they were not altogether unknown before that epoch.

Camden says, "About the year of our Lord 1000, (that we may not minute out the time) surnames became to be taken up in France; and in England *about the time* of the Conquest, or else a *very little* before, vnder King Edward the Confessor, who was all Frenchified. . . . . This will seeme strange to some Englishmen and Scottishmen, whiche, like the Arcadians, thinke their surnames as antient as the moone, or at the least to reach many an age beyond

the Conquest. But they which thinke it most strange, (I speake vnder correction,) I doubt they will hardly finde *any surname which descended to posterity* before that time: neither haue they seene (I feare) *any deede or donation* BEFORE THE CONQUEST, *but subsigned with crosses and* SINGLE *names* WITHOUT *surnames*, in this manner; + Ego Eadredus confirmaui. + Ego Edmundus corroboraui. + Ego Sigarius conclusi. + Ego Olfstanus consolidaui, &c."

Our great antiquary declares that both he and divers of his friends had "pored and pusled vpon many an old record and evidence" for the purpose of finding hereditary surnames before the Conquest, without success; what then would he have said to a document like the following, containing the substance of a grant from Thorold of Buckenhale, sheriff of Lincolnshire, of the manor of Spalding, to Wulgate, abbot of Croyland, dated 1051, the 10th year of Edward the Confessor, and *fifteen years* before the Conquest?

"I have given to God and St. Guthlac of Croyland, &c. all my manor situate near the parochial church of the same town, with all the lands and tenements, rents and services, &c. which I hold in the same manor, &c. with all the appendants; viz. Colgrin, *my reeve*, (præpositum meum,) and his whole sequell, with all the goods and chattels which he hath in the same town, fields and marshes. Also Harding, *the smith*, (fabrum,) and his whole sequell. Also Lefstan, *the carpenter*, (carpentarium,) and his whole sequell, &c. Also Ryngulf *the first*, (primum,) and his whole sequell, &c. Also Elstan, *the fisherman*, (piscatorem,) and his whole sequell, &c. Also GUNTER LINIET, and his whole sequell, &c. Also ONTY GRIMKELSON, &c.

Also TURSTAN DUBBE, &c. Also Algar, *the black*, (nigrum,) &c. Also Edric, the *son* of *Siward*, (filium Siwardi,) &c. Also Osmund, *the miller*, (molendinarium,) &c. Also BESI TUK, &c. Also ELMER DE PINCEBECK, &c. Also GOUSE GAMELSON, &c." with the same clauses to each as before.*

Now while the terms *reeve, smith, carpenter, the first, fisher, the black, miller*, &c. applied respectively to Colgrin, Harding, Lefstan, &c. are merely personal descriptions; LINIET, DUBBE, TUK, DE PINCEBECK, have the appearance of settled surnames. The same distinction is observable between *Edric, the son of Siward*, and GRIMKELSON and GAMELSON. Indeed some of these surnames are yet remaining amongst us, as Dubbe, Tuk, Liniet, and Pincebeck —now spelt Dubb, Tuck, Linney and Pinchbeck, a fact which I think goes far to prove that they were hereditary even at the time when the deed of gift above recited was made.

This document is also opposed to another opinion prevalent among antiquaries, namely, that surnames were assumed by the aristocracy long before the commonalty took them. Here we see that the bondmen or churls of the Lincolnshire sheriff used them, and that before many of the landed proprietors had any other designation than a Christian name.

A great many surnames occur in Domesday book; (Camden says, they *first* occur there.) Some of these are LOCAL, as *De Grey, de Vernon, d'Oily*; some PATRONYMICAL, as Richardus *filius Gisleberti*; and others OFFICIAL or PROFESSIONAL, as Gulielmus *Camerarius*, (the chamberlain,) Radulphus *Venator*, (the hunter,) Gislebertus *Cocus* (the cook,) &c. &c. "But very many," as Camden

* See the entire deed in Gough's History of Croyland Abbey. (App. p. 29.)

remarks "(occur) with their Christian names only, as *Olaff, Nigellus, Eustachius, Baldricus.*" It is to be observed that those with single names are "noted last in every shire, as men of least account," and as sub-tenants. Here a query arises. Are we to conclude that because many names are given in the single form, that the individuals to whom they belonged had only one? I think not; and notwithstanding all that Camden and others assert on the subject, I am strongly of opinion that hereditary surnames were *sometimes* used before the Conquest.

Camden's remark that these single-named gentry come "last in every shire," confirms my supposition. It is probable that their inferiority of rank was the cause of the non-insertion of the second, or sur-name. We must not forget that many of these 'men of least account,' were of the conquered Saxon race, who would be treated with as little ceremony in their names as in anything else. Do not modern usages with respect to the nomenclature of inferiors support this idea? We rarely speak of our superiors without the double or triple designation: *Lord So-and-so, Sir John Such-a-one,* or *Mr. This-or-that,* while the single names *Smith, Brown, Jones,* and *Robinson,* suffice for persons of lower grade. I will venture to say that one half of the masters and mistresses of houses in large towns do not even *know* more than one of the two names borne by their servants, some accustoming themselves to command them exclusively by their Christian names, others as exclusively using their surnames. I know that many of my readers will regard all this as inconclusive gossip, but having hazarded an opinion, I am unwilling to leave anything unsaid that could be said in support of it.

The manors of Ripe and Newtimber, in Sussex, are mentioned in Domesday as having been, before the Conquest, the estates, respectively, of *Cane* and of *Ælfech*. Now these names are still found in the county as *surnames;* the former under its ancient orthography, and the latter under that of *Elphick;* but were these ever used as Christian names? Ælfech may be the same with Alphage, a Saxon fore-name; but *Cane* was certainly never so used. By the bye, it is an extraordinary fact that the name of Cane is still borne by two respectable farmers at Ripe, in which neighbourhood, I have scarcely a doubt, their ancestors have dwelt from the days of the Confessor, and all bearing the same monosyllabic designation: an honour which few of the mighty and noble of this land can boast!

It would however be preposterous to imagine that surnames universally prevailed so early as the eleventh century: we have overwhelming evidence that they did *not;* and must admit that although the Norman conquest did much to introduce the practice of using them, it was long before they became very common. All I am anxious to establish is, that the occasional use of surnames in England dates beyond the ingress of the Normans.

Surnames were taken up in a very gradual manner by the great, (both of Saxon and Norman descent,) during the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries. By the middle of the twelfth, however, it appears that they were (in the estimation of some) necessary appendages to families of rank, to distinguish them from those of meaner extraction. We have an instance of this in the wealthy heiress of the powerful Baron Fitz-Hamon's making the want of a surname in Robert, natural son of King Henry the First, an objection

to his marriage with her. The lady is represented as saying:

> It were to me great shame,
> To have a lord withouten his twa name!*

when the monarch, to remedy the defect, gave him the surname of *Fitz-Roy;* a designation which has, at several subsequent periods, been given to the illegitimate progeny of our kings.

The unsettled state of surnames in those early times renders it a difficult matter to trace the pedigree of any family beyond the thirteenth century. In Cheshire, a county remarkable for the number of its resident families of great antiquity, it was very usual for younger branches of a family, laying aside the name of their father, to take their name from the place of their residence, and thus in three descents as many surnames are found in the same family.† This remark may be forcibly illustrated by reference to the early pedigree of the family of Fitz-Hugh, which name did not settle down as a fixed appellative until the time of Edward III. Thus we read in succession—

Bardolph,
Akaris Fitz-Bardolph,
Hervey Fitz-Akaris,
Henry Fitz-Hervey,
Randolph Fitz-Henry,
Henry Fitz-Randolph,
Randolph Fitz-Henry,
Hugh Fitz-Randolph,
Henry Fitz-Hugh,

* Robert of Gloucester. † Vide Lyson's Cheshire, p. 357.

which last was created a baron, assuming that name as his title, and giving it permanence as a family appellative.* Where there were several sons in one family, instances are found where each brother assumed a different surname. There is another great difficulty in tracing the pedigrees of families, arising from the loose orthography which obtained up to the time of Elizabeth, and even later. Mr. Markland† mentions having seen a document of the sixteenth century, in which four brothers, named Rugely, spell their names in as many different ways. Dr. Chandler notices the name of Waynflete in *seventeen* modes of orthography. It might be conjectured (adds Mr. Markland) that these variations were intentional, could any probable motive be assigned for such a practice.‡

It has been asserted that an act of parliament was passed in the reign of Edward the Second for enforcing the practice of using surnames, but it seems more probable that *necessity* led the common people to adopt them. Before the Conquest there was, in most cases, sufficient variety in the Christian names; but the Normans, giving the preference to scripture names, introduced so great a number of Johns, Jameses, and Peters, that in the course of two or three centuries surnames were absolutely necessary for the sake of distinction.

These surnames were of a very loose kind, as is apparent from the following list of persons who were living about

* Halle of John Halle, vol. i. p. 10. † Archæologia, vol. xviii. p. 108.

‡ I have little doubt that what we now consider irregularities in the orthography of our ancestors, were by them thought to be ornamental; a species of taste "somewhat akin to the fastidiousness in modern composition, which as studiously rejects the repetition of words and phrases."—M. A. L.

the year 1340, (13 Edw. III.), taken principally from the Inquisitiones Nonarum :

Johēs over the Water
William at Byshope Gate
Johēs o' the Shephouse
Johēs q'dam s'viens Rog. Leneydeyman
Johis vicarii eccl' Ste. Nich.
Agnes, the Pr'sts sister*
Johēs at the Castle Gate
Johēs in the Lane
Johēs up the Pende
Petr' atte the Bell
Johēs of the Gutter
Thomas in the Willows
Steph' de Portico
William of London-bridge.

About this time (to speak *generally*) the surnames of the middling and lower ranks began to descend from father to son ; but even at the commencement of the fifteenth century there was much confusion in family names. Sometimes indeed, the same person bore different surnames at different periods. Thus, a person who in 1406 describes himself as William, the son of Adam Emmotson, calls himself, in 1416, William Emmotson. Another person who is designated John, the son of William, the son of John de *Hunshelf*, appears soon after as John *Wilson*. Other names, such as Willielmus-Johnson-Wilkinson, Willielmus-Adamson-Magotson, and Thomas-Henson-Magot, prevail about this period.†

* Gent. Mag. June 1821. † Penny Cyclopædia.

The following address to the populace, between the acts of one of the *Coventry Mysteries*, serves still further to illustrate the state in which our family nomenclature stood in the fifteenth century:

¶ A voyd sers! And lete me lord the bischop come
And syt in the court, the laws for to doo;
And I schal gon in this place, them for to somowne;
The that ben in my book, the court ye must come to.

¶ I warne you her', all abowte,
That I somown you, all the rowte,
Loke ye fayl, for no dowte,
At the court to "per," (appear).

Both John JURDON' and Geffrey GYLE
Malkyn MYLKEDOKE and FAYRE Mabyle,
Stevyn STURDY, and Jack-AT-THE'STYLE,
And Sawdyr SADELER.

¶ Thom TYNKER' and Betrys BELLE
Peyrs POTTER, and Whatt-AT-THE-WELLE,
Symme SMAL-FEYTH, and Kate KELLE,
And Bertylmew the BOCHER (butcher).

Kytt CAKELER, and Colett CRANE,
Gylle FETYSE and FAYR Jane
Powle POWTER', and P[ar]nel PRANE,
And Phelypp the good FLECCHER.

¶ Cok CRANE, and Davy DRY-DUST
Luce LYER, and Letyce LYTYL-TRUST,
Miles the MILLER, and Colle CRAKE-CRUST
Both Bette the BAKER, and Robyn REDE.

And LOKE YE RYNGE WELE IN YOWR PURS
For ellys yowr cawse may spede the wurs,
Thow that ye slynge goddys curs,
Evy[n] at my hede.

¶ Both BONTYNG the BROWSTER, and Sybyly SLYNGE,
Megge MERY-WEDYR, and Sabyn SPRYNGE
Tyffany TWYNKELER ffayle for no thynge,
Ffast co' a way
The courte shall be this day.

Surnames can scarcely be said to have been *permanently* settled before the era of the Reformation.* The keeping of parish registers was probably more instrumental than anything else in settling them; for if a person were entered under one surname at baptism, it is not likely that he would be married under another, and buried under a third. Exceptions to a generally established rule, however, occurred in some places. The Rev. Mark Noble† affirms that "it was late in the seventeenth century that many families in Yorkshire, *even of the more opulent sort*, took stationary names. Still later, about Halifax, surnames became in their dialect genealogical, as *William, a Bills, a Toms, a Luke.*"

On the remark of Tyrwhitt, in his edition of Chaucer, that it is "probable that the use of surnames was not in Chaucer's time fully established among the lower class of people," a more recent editor of the same poet says, "Why, the truth is, that they are not *now*, even in the nineteenth century, *fully* established in some parts of England. There are very few, for instance, of the miners of Staffordshire, who bear the names of their fathers. The Editor knows a pig-dealer, whose father's name was *Johnson*, but the people call him *Pigman*, and *Pigman* he calls himself. This name may be now seen over the door of a public-house which this man keeps in Staffordshire."

But this is nothing to the practice of bearing a double set of names, which, we are assured, prevails among these colliers. Thus a man may at the same time bear the names of John Smith and Thomas Jones, without any intention of concealment, but it must not be imagined that such regular

* Archæologia, vol. xviii. p. 106. † Hist. Coll. Arms, Introduction, p. 29.

names are in common use. These are a kind of *best* names, which, like their Sunday clothes, they only use on high-days and holydays, as at christenings and marriages. For every-day purposes they use no appellative, except a nickname, as *Nosey, Soiden-mouth,** *Soaker,* or some such elegant designation; and this is employed, not by their neighbours alone, but by their wives and children, and even by themselves! A correspondent of Knight's Quarterly Magazine,† who is my authority for these statements, says, "I knew an apothecary in the collieries, who, as a matter of decorum, always entered the real names of his patients in his books; that is, when he could ascertain them. But they stood there only for ornament; for *use* he found it necessary to append the soubriquet, which he did with true medical formality, as, for instance, "Thomas Williams, *vulgo dict'*. OLD PUFF. . . . Clergymen have been known to send home a wedding party in despair, after a vain essay to gain from the bride and bridegroom a sound by way of name, which any known alphabet had the power of committing to paper!" A story is told of an attorney's clerk who was professionally employed to serve a process on one of these oddly-named gentry, whose real name was entered in the instrument with legal accuracy. The clerk, after a great deal of enquiry as to the whereabouts of the party, was about to abandon the search as hopeless, when a young woman, who had witnessed his labours, kindly volunteered to assist him.

"Oy say, *Bullyed,*" cried she, to the first person they met, "does thee know a mon neamed Adam Green?"

The bull-head was shaken in token of ignorance.

* With the mouth awry.

† Vol. i. p. 297 et seq.

"*Loy-a-bed*, dost thee?"

Lie-a-bed's opportunities of making acquaintance had been rather limited, and she could not resolve the difficulty.

Stumpy (a man with a wooden leg), *Cowskin*, *Spindle-shanks*, *Cockeye*, and *Pigtail*, were severally invoked, but in vain; and the querist fell into a brown study, in which she remained for some time. At length, however, her eyes suddenly brightened, and slapping one of her companions on the shoulder, she exclaimed triumphantly, "Dash my wig! whoy he means moy feyther!" and then turning to the gentleman, she added, "Yo should'n ax'd for *Ode Blackbird!*"

I could adduce similar instances, where persons among the peasantry of my native county are much better known by *soubriquets* than by their proper surnames; and many only know them by the former. This is particularly the case where several families in one locality bear the same name. A friend of mine informs me, that he lately knew fifteen persons in the small town of F———, on the coast of Kent, whose hereditary name was *Hall*, but who, *gratiâ distinctionis*, bore the elegant designations of—

Doggy-Hall,	Pumble-Foot,
Feathertoe,	Cold Flip,
Bumper,	Silver-Eye,
Bubbles,	Lumpy,
Pierce-Eye,	Sutty,
Faggots,	Thick-Lips,
Cula,	and
Jiggery,	Old Hare.

But it is now high time to end this long, "dull, dry, and

desultory" Essay, which I now do, with a guarantee to my indulgent reader, that the succeeding ones shall be made, as far the nature of the subject will admit, more interesting, both as regards "the *thing* to be said and the *manner* of saying it."

ESSAY III.

LOCAL SURNAMES.

UNDER the general term Local Surnames, I include all such family names as were borrowed from *places*. These may be divided into two classes: first, the *specific*, comprising such as are derived from the *proper* names of places, as *Yorke, Winchester, Grantham;* and second, the *generic*, being all those taken from *common* names expressive of situation, as *Wood, Hill, Greene.*

We have already seen that some second names were borrowed from places in antient times. These, however, were not hereditary, like those of modern date. The latter originated, in all probability, in Normandy and the contiguous parts of France, about the close of the tenth century, or the commencement of the eleventh. Possessors of land, in the first instance, borrowed them from their own estates, a practice in which the Normans were soon imitated by the English, particularly after the Conquest. Chiefly of this kind are the names occurring in that far-famed document, the Great Roll of Battel Abbey—a list of the principal commanders and companions in arms of William the Conqueror.* Camden remarks, that there is not a single *village* in Normandy that has not surnamed some family in

* See Appendix.

England. The French names introduced by the Conquest may generally be known by the prefixes DE, DU, DES, DE LA, ST. or SAINCT, and by the suffixes FONT, ERS, FANT, BEAU, AGE, MONT, ARD, AUX, BOIS, LY, EUX, ET, VAL, COURT, VAUX, LAY, FORT, OT, CHAMP and VILLE, most of which are component parts of proper names of places, as every one may convince himself by the slightest glance at a map of Northern France.

I shall here set down, from Camden, some of the principal surnames imported into England from the opposite side of the channel in or about the year 1066, which he classifies into those of Normandy, Bretagne, France, and the Netherlands.

From Normandy. Mortimer, Warren, Albigny, Percy, Gournay, Devereux, Tankerville, St.-Lo, Argenton, Marmion, St.-Maure (corruptly *Seymour*), Bracy, Maigny, Nevill, Ferrers, Harcourt, Baskerville, Mortagne, Tracy, Beaufoy, Valoins, (now *Valance?*) Cayly, Lucy, Montfort, Bonville, Bouil, Avranche, &c.

From Bretagne. St. Aubyn, Morley, Dinant (corrupted to *Dinham*), Dole, Balun, Conquest, Valletort, Lascelles, Bluet, &c.

From other parts of France. Courtenaye, Corby, Boleyn, Crevequer, St. Leger, Bohun, St. Andrew, Chaworth, St. Quintin, Gorges, Villiers, Cromar, Paris, Rheims, Cressy (now *Creasy*), Fynes, Beaumont, Coignac, Lyons, Chalons, Chaloner, Estampes or Stamps, and many more.

From the Netherlands. Louvaine, Gaunt (Ghent), Ipres, Bruges (now Brydges), Malines, Odingsels, Tournay, Douay, Buers (now Byers), Beke; and, in latter ages, Daubridgcourt, Rosbert, Many, Grandison, &c.

Many persons who bear names of French origin jump,

without any evidence of the fact from historical records, to the conclusion, that they must needs be descended from some stalwart Norman, who hacked his way to eminence and fortune through the serried ranks of the Saxons at Hastings. Such ambitious individuals ought to be reminded that, in the eight centuries that have elapsed since the Conquest, there have been numerous settlements of the French in our nation; for instance, Queen Isabella of France, the consort of Edward II. introduced in her train many individuals bearing surnames previously unknown in England, as Longchamp, Conyers, Devereux, D'Arcy, Henage, Savage, Molineux, and Danvers,* to say nothing of the various settlements of merchants, artists, and refugees of all kinds, who have sought and found an "island home" in Britain.

Although the practice of adopting hereditary surnames from manors and localities originated in Normandy, we are not therefore to conclude that all those names that have DE, &c. prefixed were of Norman origin; for many families of Saxon lineage copied the example of their conquerors in this particular. If the Normans had their De Warrens, De Mortimers, and D'Evereuxes, the English likewise had their De Ashburnhams, De Fords, De Newtons, &c. *ad infinitum*. In some cases the Normans preferred the surname derived from their antient patrimonies in Normandy; in others they substituted one derived from the estate given them by the Conqueror and his successors. In a few instances the particle *de* or *d'* is still retained; but, generally speaking, it was dropped from surnames about the time of Henry the Sixth, when the title armiger or esquier among the heads of families, and generosus or

* Anglorum Speculum, 1684, p. 26.

gentylman among younger sons, began pretty generally to be substituted. Thus, instead of John de Alchorne, William de Catesby, &c. the landed gentry wrote themselves, John Alchorne of Alchorne, Esq., William Catesby of Catesby, Gent. &c. Our quaint old friend Verstegan thinks this change began to take place "when English men and English manners began to prevail unto the recovery of decayed credit;"* or, in other words, when the native English began to breathe from the tyranny of their Norman conquerors. This may be true of the former, but it cannot apply to the latter. Brevity appears to have been the real motive for the omission of the DE and other particles previously used with surnames. Had euphony been regarded, it would never have occurred with the French particles; for, however much better *Hall* and *Towers* may sound than *Atte Halle* and *Atte Tower*, it cannot be denied that *De la Chambre*, and *Le Despencer* are shorn of all their beauty when transmogrified to *Chambers* and *Spencer*. But to return; to bear the denomination of one's own estate was antiently, as it is still, considered a peculiar honour and a genuine mark of gentility; but *sic transit gloria mundi*, that I could name instances of persons having become absolutely pauperised on the very spot from which their ancestors had been surnamed.

From these observations, however, it must not be inferred that *all* families bearing local surnames were originally possessors of the localities from which those names were borrowed. In all probability a great number of such names were never used with the DE at all. In Germany and Poland they discriminate in this respect by using the word IN, when possessors of the place, and OF, when only born

* Restitution, p. 311.

or dwelling there. The like, Camden tells us, was formerly done in Scotland, "where you shall have Trotter *of* Folsham, and Trotter *in* Fogo; Haitley *of* Haitley, and Haitley *in* Haitley. The foregoing remark is rendered most evident by such names as these, occurring at an early period in the neighbourhood of Hull: Ralph le Taverner *de Nottingham de Kyngeston* super Hull; Robert *de Dripol de Kyngeston*, &c.*

There are several antient baronial surnames to which our old genealogists assigned a false origin. Some of these may be called *Crusading* names, from the supposition that they were derived from places visited by the founders of the families during the holy wars. *Mortimer* was, according to these etymologists, *de Mortuo Mari*, "from the Dead Sea," and *Dacre*, *D'Acre*, a town on the coast of Palestine; but it is well known that the places from which these two are derived are situated, the one in Normandy, the other in Cumberland. *Jordan*, however, is known to have been borrowed from the famous river of that name in Palestine; and *Mountjoy* is said to have been adopted from a place near Jerusalem, which, according to that worthy old traveller, Sir John Maundevile, "men clepen Mount-Joye, for it zevethe joy to pilgrymes hertes, be cause that there men seen first Jerusalem . . . . a full fair place and a delicyous."†

There is a "vulgar error" that places borrowed their names from persons instead of the contrary. On this subject Camden says, "Whereas therefore these locall deno-

* Vide Frost's History of Hull.

† Some religious houses in England had their *mountjoys*, or name given to eminences where the first view of the sacred edifice was to be obtained. This name is still retained in a division of the hundred of Battel, not far from the remains of the majestic pile reared by William the Conqueror.

minations of families are of no great antiquitie, I cannot yet see why men should thinke that their ancestors gave names to places, when the places bare those very names before any men did their surnames. Yea, the very terminations of the names are such as are only proper and applicable to places, and not to persons in their significations, if any will marke the locall terminations which I lately specified. Who would suppose Hill, Wood, Field, Ford, Ditch, Poole, Pond, Towne or Tun, and such like terminations to be convenient for men to beare their names, vnlesse they could also dreame Hills, Woods, Fields, Ponds, &c. to have been metamorphosed into men by some supernaturall transformation.

"And I doubt not but they will confesse that townes stand longer than families.

"It may also be prooued that many places which now haue Lords denominated of them had .... owners of other surnames and families not many hundred yeeres since.

"I know neverthelesse, that albeit most townes haue borrowed their names from their situation and other respects, yet some with apt terminations have their names from men, as Edwardston, Alfredstone, Ubsford, Malmesbury (corruptly for Maidulphsbury). But these were from fore-names or Christian names, and not from surnames. For Ingulphus plainly sheweth that *Wiburton* and *Leffrington* were so named, because two knights, Wiburt and Leofric,*

* The practice of borrowing names of places from the fore-names of men appears to have been pretty usual among the Saxons, and that even almost to the period of the Conquest.

"Many of the names of places, of which the meaning seems most difficult to explain, are compounded of those of Anglo-Saxon possessors or cultivators; and

there sometime inhabited. But if any should affirme that the gentlemen named *Leffrington*, *Wiburton*, *Lancaster*, *Leicester*, *Bossevill*, or *Shorditch*, gave the names to the places so named, I would humbly, without prejudice, craue respite for a further day before I beleeued them....."

This error possibly originated either in the flattering tales of old genealogists,* or from the fact of surnames having been occasionally appended to the proper names of towns and manors, for the sake of distinction; or, as Camden says, "to notifie the owner," as Hurst-Perpoint, and Hurst-Monceux; Tarring-Neville, and Tarring-Peverell; Rotherfield-Greys, and Rotherfield-Pypard. It is true that a vulgar ostentation has often induced the proprietors of

the original forms of such words are readily discovered by a reference to Domesday book. Thus, on the Herefordshire side of Ludlow we have Elmodes-treow or the tree of Elmod (now Aymestry); Wildferdes-tune, or the enclosure of Wildferd (Woofferton); Willaves-lage, or the lee (saltus) of Willaf (probably Willey); Edwardes-tune, or the enclosure of Edward (Adferton); Elnodes-tune, or the enclosure of Elnod (Elton); Bernoldune, or the hill of Bernold. In Shropshire there are Chinbaldes-cote, or the cot of Chinbald, a place mentioned as dependent upon Bromfield; Ælmundes-tune, or the enclosure of Elmund; Elmund-wic, or the dwelling of Elmund; Alnodes-treow, or the tree of Elnod, &c. Names of places having *ing* in the middle are generally formed from patronymics, which in Anglo-Saxon had this termination. Thus a son of Alfred was an Ælfreding, his descendants in general were Ælfredingas or Alfredings. These patronymics are generally compounded with *ham*, *tun*, &c., and whenever we can find the name of the place in pure Saxon documents, we have the patronymic in the genitive case plural. Thus Birmingham was Beor-minga-ham, the home or residence of the sons or descendants of Beorm. There are not many names of this form in the neighbourhood of Ludlow; Berrington (Beoringatun) was perhaps the enclosure of the sons or family of Beor, and Culmington that of the family of Culm."—Vide *Wright's History of Ludlow*, reviewed in the ARCHÆOLOGIST, *March*, 1842.

* Among other instances of this kind, I recollect that, in the pedigree of Roberts, antiently called Rookhurst, (Hayley's Sussex MSS. Brit. Mus.) compiled in the reign of Elizabeth, it is asserted that a gentleman of Scotland, named Rookhurst, settling in Kent, *in the eleventh century*, gave that name to the manor so designated!

mansions to give their own names to them as, *Hammond's-Place, Latimer's, Camois-Court, Mark's-Hall, Theobald's,* &c. &c. "when as now they have possessors of other names; and the old verse is, and alwayes will be, verified of them, which a right worshipfull friend of mine* not long since writ upon his new house:

Hunc mea, mox hujus, sed postea nescio cujus."

But enough of these preliminary observations. It is now time to classify the local surnames into their various kinds: and first, I may mention those of the patrial description or such as denote the country out of which the founder of the family originally came. These are more numerous than might be expected: and they usually occur in antient records with the particle LE.

ALMAN, from Almany, (Germany.)

ANGEVIN, from Anjou. *Camd.* I have not met with this name.

BRET, BRETTON, BRITTON, from Bretagne, a province of France.

BURGOYNE, from Burgundy.

CORNISH, CORNWALLIS, from Cornwall.

CHAMPNEIS, from Champagne, a French province.

DANE, DENIS, from Denmark.

ESTARLING, corrupted in some instances to *Stradling*, from 'the East,' probably Greece.

ENGLISH, ENGLAND. I can only account for these names on the supposition that they were given to some Englishmen, while resident abroad.

FRENCH, FRANCE.

FLANDERS, FLEMING, from the Netherlands.

* Camd. Rem. p. 108.

GERMAINE, from Germany.

GASGOYNE, from the French province.

HOLLAND, DOUCHE. The latter is the antient form of "Dutch."

JANEWAY, a Genoese. On the mention of this name an antient anecdote occurs to my recollection, which I know I shall be pardoned for introducing here.

"There was one amonge the *Janwayes* that the Frenche kyng hyred to make warre agaynst the Englysshe men, whiche bare an oxe heed peynted in his shelde: the which shelde a noble man of France challenged: and so longe they stroue, that they must nedes fyght for it. So at a day and place appointed, the frenche gallaunt came into the felde, rychely armed *at all peces*. The *Janwaye*, all vnarmed, came also in to the felde, and said to the frenche man, wherefore shall we this day fight? Mary, said the frenche man, I wyll make good with my body, that these armes were myne auncetours before thyne. What were your auncetours armes? quod the *Janwaye*. An *oxe heed*, sayd the frenche man. Than sayde the *Janwaye*, here nedeth no batayle: For this that I beare is a *cowes heed!*" (*From "Tales, and quicke Answeres, very mery, and pleasant to rede,"* written about temp. Henry VIII.)

IRELAND, IRISH.

LOMBARD, Lambarde, from Lombardy.

MAYNE, from the French province.

MAN, from the Island.

MOORE, MORRIS. The former may be, and probably is a "generic" name, as it occurs in the form of *Atmoor*, *Amoore*, &c. q. d. *at the Moor*. With respect to the latter name I may observe that it is variously spelt Morys, Moris, Morris, Morice, Morrice, Mawrice, &c., and com-

pounded with various initial expressions, De, Mont, Fitz, Clan, &c. Some of the families bearing this name are of Welsh extraction, *Mawrrwyce*, being the Welsh form of Mavors (Mars), the god of war, antiently given to valorous chieftains of that country. One of the Welsh family mottoes has reference to this etymology, "MARTE et mari faventibus." The other Morrices are supposed to be of *Moorish* blood; their progenitors having come over from Africa, by way of Spain, into various countries of western Europe at an early period. It is a well-known fact that the particular species of saltation, called the *morrice-dance*, and several branches of magic lore, were introduced into these regions many centuries since by natives of Morocco. The professors of those arts enriching themselves by their trade, seem in some instances to have embraced Christianity, and to have become founders of eminent families; certain it is that several magnates bearing the names of Morice, Fitz-Morice and Montmorice, attended William the Conqueror in his descent upon England, and, acquiring lands, settled in this country. The name Montmorris is said to signify "from the Moorish mountains."*

NORMAN, from Normandy.

PICARD, from Picardy, a province of France.

POITEVIN, from Poitou. *Camd.* I have not seen this name elsewhere.

ROMAYNE, from Rome.

SCOTT, from Scotland.

WALES, WALSH, WALLIS, from Wales.

WESTPHALING, from Westphalia, in Germany.

WIGHT, from the island of that name.

* Vide Burke's Commoners, vol. iv.

To these may be added PAYNE,* (latinized Paganus,) probably given to some *Paynim* or *Mussulman*, who embraced the Christian faith during the Crusades; and GIPSEY, bestowed on some person who had left the mysterious nomadic tribe, so well known, and become naturalized as an Englishman. Be this as it may, it is now borne by some very respectable families who take rank as English gentry, and reside, if my recollection serves me, somewhere in Kent.

From names of COUNTIES in the British dominions we derive the following family names: *Cheshire, Kent, Essex, Cornwall, Darbishire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset, Cumberland, Renfrew* (corrupted to Romphrey), *Denby, Montgomery* (?) *Clare* (?) *Down* (?) *Ross* (?) *York* (?) &c. Also *Kentish, Devenish,* and *Cornish,* with which last I may add *Londonish.*

From CITIES and TOWNS: *York, Winchester, Chichester, Rochester, Oxford, Bristowe* (Bristol), *London, Warwick, Buckingham, Bedford, Carlisle, Lancaster, Hertford, Lester, Coventry, Portsmouth, Lewes, Hastings, Arundel, Rye, Blackburn, Hampton, Huntingdon, Grantham, Rugby, Halifax, Grimsby, Bath, Wells, Poole, Dartmouth, Hull, Kingston, Winchelsea,*† and others far too numerous for mention.

From VILLAGES: as for instance, from Sussex alone; *Heathfield, Hartfield, Halsham, Ernley, Waldron, Ore,*

* Persons who wilfully remained unbaptized were antiently called *Pagani.* Vide Fosbroke's Encyclop. of Antiq.

† The names of *Brighton, Devonport,* and other very modern towns, which occasionally occur, (in police reports, &c.) must be of recent assumption, and are probably adopted by delinquents for the purpose of concealment.

Icklesham, Balcomb, Wistonneston, Hurst, Ticehurst, Crowhurst, Westfield, Clayton, Patching, Preston, Iden, Mayfield, Ashburnham, Barnham, Beckley, Barwike, Bolney, Compton, Coombs, Etchingham, Glynde, Goring, Grinstead, Lindfield, which, with numerous others, are still borne (some few excepted) by persons resident in the county.

From MANORS and smaller estates: The surnames from these sources are innumerable. To sum up the whole matter, I may observe that there is scarcely a city, town, village, manor, hamlet, or estate in England, that has not lent its name to swell the nomenclature of Englishmen. As we retain most of the names of places given them by our Saxon ancestors, with their significant terminations, it is no wonder that—

"In Ford, in Ham, in Ley and Ton
The most of English Surnames run."

I am not quite sure, however, whether the proverb is correct. There are at least *some* other terminations that are as numerous as the four selected by the rhymester; FIELD, for instance; ING, HURST, WOOD, WICK and STED. Other terminations of less frequent occurrence are BURY, BOURNE, CASTER, COTE, OKE, COMBE, CROFT, DUN, EY, PORT, SHAW, WORTH, THORPE, WADE, CLIFF, MARSH, GATE, HILL, DOWN, WELL, &c.; most of which terminations also stand as distinct surnames.

Some counties have predominant surnames of the local kind; hence in Cornwall the old proverbial saying:

By Tre, Pol, and Pen,
Ye shall know the Cornishmen.

Camden (or, more probably, his friend "R. Carew of Anthony, Esquire,") has amplified the proverb to

By Tre, Ros, Pol, Lan, Caer, and Pen,
You may know the most Cornish-men.

In no other county of England are there so many local surnames as in Cornwall; and as the names of places are almost exclusively derived from *British* roots, the family nomenclature of that peninsula differs materially from that of the rest of England. I may remark that *Tre* signifies a town; *Ros*, a heath; *Pol*, a pool; *Lan*, a churçh; *Cær*, a castle; and *Pen*, a head.

In *Kent* and *Sussex*, HURST, signifying "wood," is a component syllable in many hundreds of names of places, from many of which surnames have been borrowed, as *Ticehurst*, *Crowhurst*, *Bathurst*, *Hawkhurst*, *Akehurst*, *Penkhurst*, *Wilmshurst*, *Ashurst*, &c. *Field* and *Den* are likewise very usual in these counties, as *Chatfield*, *Lindfield*, *Hartfield*, *Streatfield*; *Cowden*, *Horsmonden*, *Haffenden*. In *Devonshire*, COMBE appears to be a favorite termination.

The frequency of two family names in a northern county led to this proverbial saying:

In Cheshire there are Lees as plenty as fleas,
And as many Davenports as dogs'-tails!*

Identity of surname is not always proof of the consanguinity of the parties bearing it; for in some instances two families have derived their surname from one place, in other cases from two different places bearing the same

* Grose's Proverbs.

designation. As nearly every county has its *Norton*, its *Newton*,* its *Stoke*, or its *Sutton*, there may be nearly as many *distinct* families of those names as there are counties. Much less are such names as *Attwood*, *Waters*, *Wells*, *Banks*, &c., peculiar to one family.

"RIVERS," says Camden, "have imposed names to some men, as the old Baron *Sur-Teys* (hodie *Surtees*), that is, upon the Tees . . . *Derwentwater*, *Eden*, *Troutbeck*, *Hartgill*, *Esgill*, *Wampull*, *Swale*, *Stour*, *Temes*, *Trent*, *Tamar*, *Grant*, *Tyne*, *Croc*, *Lone*, *Lund*, *Calder*." To these I add *Parret*, *Dee*, *Kennett*, *Loddon*. I think *Pickersgill* belongs to this class, as it signifies "a stream inhabited by pike or pickerell."

Hitherto I have treated of names derived from the *proper* names of places; it now becomes necessary to notice those taken from the common or *generic* names of localities, as *Hill*, *Dale*, *Wood*, &c.

After the practice of adopting the name of one's own estate had become pretty general amongst the landed families, men of the middle and lower classes, ("ungentlemen," as the Boke of St. Alban's has it,) imitating their superiors, borrowed their family names from the situation of their residences; thus, if one dwelt upon a HILL, he would style himself *Atte Hull*; if on a MOOR, *Atmoore*;

* It is remarkable that many of the most *antique* places in the kingdom bear this name, which signifies *New-town*. This definition reminds me of an epitaph in a churchyard in the north of England:

"Here lies (alas!) and more's the pity,
All that remains of JOHN NEW-CITY."

To which the following somewhat important *nota bene* is attached:

"☞ The man's name was *New*-TOWN, which would not rhyme."!

or *Amore;* if UNDER a hill, *Underdown;* if near some TOWER or GATE, *Atte Tower* or *Agate;* if by some LAKE or SHORE, *Bywater* or *Bythesea,** &c.

The prefix principally made use of was ATTE, which was varied to ATTEN when the name began with a vowel. "An instance of this kind occurs in the surname of that celebrated personage in legal matters, Mr. *John a-Noke,* whose original appellation was *John Atten Oak,* as that of his constant antagonist was *John Atte Style.* That the letter N is apt to pass from the end of one word to the beginning of another, is shown in *newt,* which has certainly been formed by a corruption from *an ewt* or *eft.*"† The surname *Noke* is now seldom met with, but its corruption *Noakes* is one of the most common of surnames. The phrase, "Jack Noakes and Tom Styles," is familiarly employed to designate the rabble. NASH is, in like manner, a corruption of *Atten-Ash,* and NYE of *Atten-Eye,* at the island.

In the course of a few generations the prefixes ATTE, &c., were softened to A, and with the latter some few names have descended to our own times, as *Agate, Amoore, Acourt,* &c. Generally speaking, however, the A was dropped towards the end of the sixteenth or the beginning of the seventeenth century. Camden supposes the A to be a softening of OF, as Adam *a'* Kerby for Adam *of* Kerby. I think it has *three* distinct derivations: 1, As

* One family of *Bythesea,* who have been gentry for upwards of three centuries at least, have a tradition that the founder of their house was a foundling, and that the name was given him (in reference to the situation where he was discovered) by a gentleman who bequeathed to him the whole of his estate. Names and dates, those useful verifiers of tradition, are wanting, I fear, in this case.

† Glossary to Chaucer's Poems. Edit. 1825.

just stated, a mollification of OF; 2, It had the force of *from*, and was, in fact, the Latin preposition (used instead of DE for *of*) in a *local* sense, as Thomas *a* Dover, for Thomas who came *from* Dover; and, 3, That it was the same preposition in a *genealogical* sense, as Peter *a* James, for Peter the son of, or one descended *from*, James.

As this kind of surnames forms a very considerable portion of the family nomenclature of Englishmen, I must beg my indulgent reader to don his hat and gloves, and accompany me to inspect the places from which our ancestors delighted to designate themselves, which, for the purpose of getting a better view, I shall digest into an alphabetical list, after the example, and with the aid, of my great predecessor in these matters, Master William Camden; making, in the course of the perambulation, such explanatory observations as may be deemed necessary, and relating such anecdotes as may be required to enliven a part of my subject which all but antiquaries will consider excessively dull.*

A.

Ash, and other generic names of trees. (See *Tree*.)

B.

Beck, a brook; *Beckett*, a little brook. How inappropriate a name for that furious bigot *St*. Thomas of Canterbury

Back, a ferry.

Baine, *Baynes*, a bath. (Fr.)

* The basis of this list is from Camden's Remaines, (p. 99, 3d edition,) from which I take the liberty of expunging whatever, in my judgment, is trivial or far-fetched in etymology.

Bank, Bankes.

Barn, Barnes.

Barrow, a tumulus. The first of this name probably resided near one of these mounds.

Biggin, a building. *Newbiggin*, a new building.

Bent, a place where rushes grow.

Bearne, a wood.

Barton, the yard of a house. Grose says this word is still used in Sussex. I have met with it in Devonshire.

Bury, Berry, a court (*Camd.*), a hill, a barrow.

By, a habitation. The *shortest* surname in use.

Boys (Fr. *Bois*), a wood. The French have their *Dubois*, &c.

Boroughs.

Bourne, a boundary stream. "To that *bourne* from whence no traveller returns." *Query*, Is the termination -BORN common to several names, as *Seaborn*, *Winterborn*, and *Newborn*, a corruption of this word; or are we to understand that the founders of those families were *born at sea, in winter*, &c.?

Bottle (A. S. bo*t*el, a village). A sailor of this name, who had served on board the Unity, man-of-war, gave one of his children the ridiculous name of *Unity Bottle*. The child was baptized at a village in Sussex; the minister hesitated some time before he would perform the rite.

Bower.

Booth.

Brunne, v. *Bourn.*

Brough, *Burgh* } v. *Borough* or *Barrow.*

Bush. Although it may seem exceedingly trivial that so insignificant an object should name one of the lords of

the creation, there is little doubt of the fact. There was lately living in Scotland a peasant who, with his children, was called *Funns*, because his cot was surrounded by furze, called, in some parts of that country, *funns*. This soubriquet had so completely usurped the place of his hereditary surname that his neighbours called him by no other name.*

Butts, marks for archery. In the days when

> . . . . . England was but a fling
> Safe for the 'Crooked Stick' and the 'Grey-Goose Wing,'†

most parishes had a place set apart for this necessary sport, and the place is still indicated in many parishes by the name of "the Butts." A person resident near such a spot would very naturally assume the surname of "John at the Butts."

Brook, *A' Brook*.

Bottom, a low ground, a valley: hence *Longbottom*, a long dale; *Sidebottom*, *Ramsbottom*, and that elegant surname, *Shufflebottom*, which, when understood to signify "shaw-field-bottom," has nothing ridiculous in it.

C.

Camp.

Chapel.

Carne, from Cairn, a Druidical heap of stones. "William by the Carne."

Castell, *Castle*.

Cave. A good name for a person residing in, or at the mouth of a cave. It originated, perhaps, in Derbyshire.

Church, and *Churchyard*.

* See an early No. of the Saturday Magazine. † Grose's Proverbs.

Chantry.

Channel.

Chase, a forest.

Cove, a creek.

Clough, a deep descent between hills. "Clym of the Clough," a Cumberland ballad.

Clive, a cliff.

Cobb, a harbour, as the Cobb of Lyme Regis, co. Dorset.

Combe, a valley.

Cot (*Cote*).

Court.

Cragg, a cliff or rock.

Croft, a small farm.

Corner.

Cross, given to one who dwelt near a market-cross, or by cross-roads.

Crouch, a cross (from the Latin *crux*). That all cross-roads formerly had a cross of wood or stone erected near the intersection, is pretty clear from the names still retained, as John's Cross, Mark-Cross, Stone-Cross, High-Cross, New-Cross, Wych-Cross (perhaps so named in honour of St. Richard de la Wych, bishop of Chichester). All these, and many others, occur in Sussex.* At Seaford such a spot bears the name of 'the Crouch.' We find also High Crouch, Fair Crouch, Crow Crouch, &c. &c. Crouched or Crutched *Friars* were an order of religion who wore a cross upon their robes. The name *crutch* applied to the supports used by cripples is evidently from the same root. A per-

* These crosses served also for direction posts. Probably this was their primary use, the religious idea being an afterthought. The annexed cut is borrowed from one in Barclay's "Ship of Fooles." Vide Fosbroke's Encyc.

son dwelling near some way-side cross would feel proud of such an appellative as *John atte Crouch*, a form in which the name frequently occurs.

[A CROUCH.]

D.

Dale, Dean, Dell. Nearly synonymous. The Sussex family of Atte Denne inverted the syllables of their name, and made it *Dennat* or Dennett.

Derne, a solitary place.

Ditch.

Dyke.

Duck.

Dunn. *Dun*, a down.

E.

Ey. *Eye*, a watery place: an island.

Ford. *Ford*, a ford. "John ? the Ford" occurs in the Inq. Nonar. in the sense of John Ford.

East. *West.* *North.* *South.*

F.

Farne.

Field.

Fell. *Fell*, barren stony hills.

Flete. a small stream.

Foil. In some places the enclosure for unpounded cattle is so called.

Ford.

Forest.

Font. a spring.

Frith. a plain among woods. In Scotland, an arm of the sea.

Fenn. the bottom of a hill.

Fenn. The old family of *de la Fenn* of Sussex, dropped the prefix, added an *e*, and became Fenner or Fenour.

G.

Garrick.

Garner. a great granary.

Gate. *Yate.* *Gates.*

Gill. a small pebbly rivulet.

Glyn. a glen.

Grange. the great barn of a monastery.

Grave. *Greave.* a ditch. *Canal.*

Gravett, a little grove.

Greene.

Grove, Groves.

Gore, a word used in old records to describe a narrow slip of ground.

H.

Hall, a great house.

Halliwell, a holy well.

Ham, a dwelling, whence *home*. Often applied in the southern counties to a triangular field or croft.

Hatch, a flood-gate.

Haugh, How, a green plot in a valley.

Hay, a hedge. *Underhay.*

Head, a foreland or promontory, as Beachy Head, St. Alban's Head, &c. Several names derived from places are the same in sound and orthography as those borrowed from parts of the person, of which hereafter. (Vide *Back, Foot*, &c.)

Hedge, Hedges. There is a great disposition among the illiterate to pluralize surnames, as *Woods* for Wood, *Gibbs* for Gibb, *Reeves* for Reeve.

Heath.

Hurst, a wood.

Herne, a house. *Beda.*

Hithe, a haven.

Hide, an antient law term for as much land as can be cultivated with one plough.

Hill, Hull. The French have *Dumont*, which may be the same with our *Dymond.*

Holme, a meadow surrounded by water.

Holt, a small hanging wood.

Hold, a tenement; a fort.

Hope, "the side of an hill." *Camd.*

Hoo, or *How*, a high place.

House.

Hunt, a chase, as Foxhunt in Sussex. *Hont* occurs in Chaucer for Huntsman.

Hurne, Horne, a corner. *Johēs in le Hurne*, that is, John in the Corner, occurs in the Inq. Nonar, 1341, parish of Wyke, county of Sussex.

Holyoake, some oak which a superstitious legend had made famous.

Hole.

Hooke, Howke. Atte Hooke became 'Tooke.

Hay-cock. Given first perhaps to a foundling.

Hollow-way. (Vide Halle of John Halle.)

I.

Ing, a meadow, or low ground.

Isle. An eminent family called *De l'Isle*, and afterwards *L'isle*, borrowed their name from the Isle of Wight. Another family adopted the same surname from the Isle of Ely.

K.

Kay, a quay.

Knapp, the top of a hill.

Knoll, Knowles, the top of a hill.

Kirk, a church.

L.

Lynch, a strip of green-sward between the ploughed lands in common fields.

Law, a hill.

Lade, a passage for water.

Lake.

Plaine.

Pende. It occurs temp. Edward III. (Qy. the meaning?)

Pole, Poole.

Pond.

Port.

Pound.

Prindle, a croft.

Plastow, Playstead, a place for sports; still found in many parts of the kingdom.

Q.

Quarry.

R.

Ricks (corruptly *Rix*), stacks of corn.

Ridge, Rigg. By dropping A from At Rigg, we have Trigg.

Ring, an enclosure.

Roades.

Row, a street; in Scotland called a *raw,* whence *Rawes.*

Ross, a heath.

Rye, a shore, or bank. Perhaps from the town of that name in Sussex.

Rill, a small stream. John at the Rill, would first become John Atterill, and afterwards John Trill. How subtle are the clues that guide us in etymological investigations!

Raynes, a bound or limit.

S.

Sanctuary.

Sale, Sales, a hall or entrance.

Sand, Sands.

Shaw, a small wood.

Shallow, a fordable place in a river.

Shore.

Skell, a well in the old Northern English. *Camd.*

Slade.

Slough.

Slack. Camden. (Qy. the meaning?)

Spital, Spittlehouse, an hospital.

Spire, Spires, a steeple. At the time when the commonalty took their first surnames Church Spires were unusual. They were introduced in a very gradual manner during the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries.

Spring, a well.

Strand, the bank of a river.

Street.

Strood, or *Stroud;* "the bank of a river, as some doe think." *Camd.*

Stable.

Stead, a standing place or station.

Steeple.

Stile, Styles.

Stock, of a tree, I suppose; an odd name for a family, though not more so than the French, *Zouch,* meaning the trunk of a tree; or than *Curzon,* the stem of a vine.

Stoke, Stokes, Stow, a place.

Stone, Stean. Given first to some one whose house stood near some Druidical, or other remarkable stone.

Spence, a yard or enclosure.

T.

Temple. This may be one of those I have designated crusading names, and derived from the temple at Jerusalem; or it may be derived from the residence of some person near one of the preceptories of the knights-templars, of which there were several in England.

Tern or *Dern*, a standing pool.

Thorn.

Thorpe, a village.

Thwaite, a pasture.

Toft, "a piece of ground where there hath been a house." *Camd.*

Tree. Under this head may be mentioned several names originating from the residence of their first bearers near remarkable trees, as *Oakes*, *Aspen*, *Box*, *Alder*, *Pine*, *Vine*, *Ash*, *Plumtree*, *Appletree*, *Hawthorne*, *Cherry*, *Beech*, *Hazel*, *Willows*, and *Elmes*. *Apps* is a provincial word for Asp. To these may be added, from the French, *Coigners*, a quince tree, and *Cheyney*, an oak.

Torr, a tower.

Tower, *Towers.*

V.

Vale. (Fr. Vaulx.)

W.

Wade, a meadow.

Wall, *Walls.*

Wake or *Werk*, some work or building.

Warren, a colony of rabbits,—also a Norman name.

Water, *Waters*, also *Attwater* and *Bywater.*

Way.

Wick, *Wix*, a hold or place of defence.

Wyche, a salt spring.

Well, *Wells.*

Wold, a hill destitute of wood.

Wood, *Attwood*, *Bywood*, *Underwood*, and *Netherwood.*

Worth. "Who shall decide when etymologists disagree?" No less than six origins have been sought for this word,

which has been made to stand for a possession, a farm, a court, a place, a fort, and an island!

Y.

Yarde.

Yate, Yates, old word for gate.

From such places, and many others of a similar kind, did numbers of our ancestors borrow their family names; short, and generally monosyllabic, they were well suited to the plain, hardy, Anglo-Saxon race who assumed them; and well adapted to distinguish that race from their Norman oppressors: a distinction now happily merged so that we cannot say with an ancient poet of ours:—

"Of the Normans beth these high menne, that be of thys lond,
And the lowe menne of Saxons."———

Some names of this class had the termination of ER or MAN attached to them: thus from

CHURCH	were formed	*Churcher* and *Churchman.*
TOWN	,,	*Towner.*
STREET	,,	*Streeter.*
HOPE	,,	*Hoper.*
FIELD	,,	*Fielder.*
BOURNE	,,	*Bourner.*
WELL	,,	*Weller.*
POND	,,	*Ponder.*
HIDE	,,	*Hider.*
HEATH	,,	*Heather* and *Hother.*
GROVE	,,	*Grover.*
RAYNE	,,	*Rayner.*
RIDGE	,,	*Ridger* and *Ridgman.*
HOLT	,,	*Holter.*

CROUCH	were formed	*Croucher.*
BRIDGE	,,	*Bridger* and *Bridgman.*
DOWN	,,	*Downer* and *Downman.*
HOUSE	,,	*Houseman.*
HILL	,,	*Hillman.*
MILL	,,	*Milman.*
STEAD	,,	*Steadman.*
COURT	,,	*Courtman.*
RYE	,,	*Ryman.*
	&c.	&c. &c.

Before leaving local surnames, I must mention such as are derived from apartments in houses, and which were most likely first given to menial servants who served in the respective rooms. Like the foregoing, they generally occur in old records in the form of *John i' the Kitchen, William atte Chamber,* &c. Besides these two we have *Garret* and *Stair,* and Camden says *Sellar* and *Parler,* which I have never seen. *Chalmers* is the Scottish form of *Chambers;* and *Hall* is otherwise accounted for. (p. 47.)

Thus, gentle reader, I have, in humble sort, set forth the origin, antiquity, and varieties of that branch of our family nomenclature borrowed from the names of places, and if thou hast found aught of gratification in my lucubrations I am satisfied: if not, close the book; thy taste and mine concur not. I quarrel not with thee, and I trust that thou wilt exercise like forbearance with me, recollecting that— "De gustibus non disputandum est,"— "and soe I bid thee right heartilie farewel."

ESSAY IV.

NAMES DERIVED FROM OCCUPATIONS AND PURSUITS.

"AFTER these locall names," saith Master Camden, "the most in number have been derived from Occupations or Professions," for which reason I purpose to make these the subject of my Fourth Essay. And as some perplexity might arise in marshalling the various Surnames according to right rules of precedence, I shall consider it no small advantage to follow so skilful a herald as Mr. Clarencieux throughout these pages.

The practice of borrowing names from the various avocations of life is of high antiquity. Thus the Romans had among them many persons, and those too of the highest rank, who bore such names as Figulus, Pictor, Fabritius, Scribonius, Salinator, Agricola, &c., answering to the *Potters, Paynters,* &c. of our own times. These names became hereditary, next in order after the local names, about the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Cocus, Dapifer, &c., we have already seen were borne by men of high rank soon after the Conquest. There was, as Camden observes, no employment that did not give its designation to one, or to many families. As local names generally had the prefix DE or AT, so these frequently had LE, as *Stephen le Spicer,*

Walter le Boucher, John le Bakere, &c. Concerning these, Verstegan remarks, "it is not to be doubted but their ancestors have first gotten them by using such trades, and the children of such parents being contented to take them upon them, after coming posterity could hardly avoid them." Pre-eminent in this class of names stands *Smith,* decidedly the most common surname amongst us. Verstegan asks—

> "From whence comes *Smith,* all be he Knight or Squire,
> But from the Smith that *forgeth* at the fire?"

but the antiquary should have been aware that the radix of this term is the Saxon Smitan, to smite; and therefore it was originally applied to artificers in wood, as well as to those in metal, as wheelwrights, carpenters, masons, and *smiters* in general. Hence the frequency of the name is easily accounted for. It certainly is ridiculously common, and has, on that account, given rise to many jokes, some of which I shall repeat. Smith, without some unusual christian name, is scarcely sufficient to distinguish a person: as to *John Smith,* it is, as a friend of mine often observes, *no name at all.* What then shall we say of the countryman who directed a letter "For Mr. John Smith, at London. With Spead"? He might as well have directed it to that inaccessible personage, the man in the moon. What better device could the wag who got too late to the theatre have employed for obtaining a seat than that of shouting at the top of his voice, "*Mr. Smith's* house is on fire?" He well knew that the house would be thinned at the rate of at least five or six per cent. Perhaps the best piece of humour relating to this name is that which appeared some three or four years since in the newspapers, under the title of

"THE SMITHS.

"Some very learned disquisitions are just now going on among the American journals touching the origin and extraordinary extension of the family of "the Smiths." Industrious explorers after derivatives and nominal roots, they say, would find in the name of John Smith a world of mystery; and a philologist in the *Providence Journal*, after having written some thirty columns for the enlightenment of the public thereanent, has thrown down his pen and declared the subject exhaustless. From what has hitherto been discovered it appears that the great and formidable family of the Smiths are the veritable descendants in a direct line from Shem, the son of Noah, the father of the Shemitish tribe, or the tribe of Shem: and it is thus derived—Shem, Shemit, Shmit, Smith. Another learned pundit, in the *Philadelphia Gazette*, contends for the universality of the name John Smith—not only in Great Britain and America, but among all kindreds and nations on the face of the earth. Beginning with the Hebrew, he says the Hebrews had no Christian names, consequently they had no Johns, and in Hebrew the name stood simply Shem or Shemit; but in the other nations the John Smith is found at full, one and indivisible. Thus: Latin, Johannes Smithius; Italian, Giovanni Smithi; Spanish, Juan Smithas; Dutch, Hans Schmidt; French, Jean Smeets; Greek, Ion Skmiton; Russian, Jonloff Skmittowski; Polish, Ivan Schmittiwciski; Chinese, Jahon Shimmit; Icelandic, Jahne Smithson; Welsh, Iihon Schmidd; Tuscarora, Ton Qa Smittia; Mexican, Jontli F'Smitli. And then to prove the *antiquity* of the name, the same *savant* observes that 'among the cartouches, deciphered by

Rosselini, on the temple of Osiris, in Egypt, was found the name of Pharaoh Smithosis, being the 9th in the 18th dynasty of the Theban kings. He was the founder of the celebrated temple of Smithopolis Magna.' We heartily congratulate the respectable multitude of the Smiths on these profound researches; researches which bid fair to explode the generally received opinion that the *great* family of the *Smiths* were the descendants of mere horse-shoers and hammer-men!"

Besides this widely spread race of the Smiths we have in England the *Millers* and *Wheelers*, the *Masons* and *Carpenters*, the *Tanners* and *Glovers*, the *Wrights* and *Bakers*, the *Marchants* and *Farmers*, the *Braziers* and *Goldsmiths*, the *Thatchers* and *Shepherds*, the *Grocers* and *Chapmans*, the *Cooks* and *Porters*, the *Cappers* and *Shoesmiths*, the *Butlers* and *Taverners*, the *Baxters* or *Bakers*, the *Brewsters* or *Brewers*, the *Hosiers* and *Taylors*, the *Plowmans* and *Cutlers*, the *Bowchirs* or *Butchers*, the *Weavers* and *Drapers*, the *Carters* and *Wagners*, the *Coopers* or *Coopers*, the *Browkers* or *Brokers*, the *Mercers* and *Skinners*, the *Naylors* or nail-makers, the *Saddlers* and *Girdlers*, the *Tylers* and *Slaters*, the *Cartwrights* and *Plowrights*, the *Wainwrights* and *Sievewrights*, the *Colliers* and *Sawyers*, the *Potters* and *Joiners*, the *Salters* and *Spicers*, the *Grinders* and *Boulters*, the *Gardeners* and *Tollers*, the *Cardmakers* and *Bookers*, the *Armorers* and *Furbishers*, the *Pipers* and *Fidlers*, the *Horners* and *Drummers*, the *Singers* and *Hornblowers*, the *Pointers* or makers of points, (an obsolete ornament of dress,) the *Boxers* and *Siveyers*, the *Shipwrights* and *Goodwrights*, (!) the *Workmans*, and *Farriers*, the *Turners* and *Woodyers*, the *Marketmans* and *Fairmans*, the *Innmans* and *Potmans*, the *Portmans*

and *Ferrimans*, the *Firemans* and *Watermans*, the *Plumbers* and *Pressmans*, the *Poticarys* and *Cheesemans*, the *Sellers* and *Salemans*, the *Alemans* and *Barleymans*, the *Leadbeaters* and *Stonehewers*. Besides these I may mention from the Nonarum Rolls—whether extinct or not I cannot say—the *Skeppers*, the *Quarreours*, the *Swepers*, the *Waterleders*, the *Lymberners*, and the *Candlemakers*.

A very great number of words, obsolete in our language, or borrowed from other languages, and therefore unintelligible to the generality of people, are retained in surnames. Thus *Sutor* is the Latin and Old English for shoemaker, *Latimer*, a writer of Latin, or, as Camden has it, "an interpretour." *Chaucer* is also said to signify a member of the gentle craft. *Leech*, the Saxon for physician, is still partially retained in some parts of the country in cowleech, a business usually connected with that of the farrier. Henry the First, according to Robert of Gloucester—

"——— Willed of a lamprey to ete,
But his Leches him berbede, bor yt was a feble mete."

Thwaytes signifies a feller of wood, and *Barker* is synonymous with Tanner. In the dialogue between King Edward the Fourth and the Tanner of Tamworth, in Percy's Reliques of Ancient Poetry, we have the following lines:

"What craftsman art thou, said the King,
I pray thee telle me trowe?
I am a *Barker*, Sir, by my trade,
Now tell me, what art thou?"

Jenner is an old form of joiner; *Webbe*, and *Webster*, of Weaver; and *Banister*, of Balneator, the keeper of a bath. A *Shearman* is one who shears worsteds, fustians, &c. an employment known at Norwich by the designation of sher-

mancraft. A *Lorimer* is a maker of bits for bridles, spurs, &c. There is or was a "Lorimer's Company" in London. A *Pilcher* was a maker of pilches, a warm kind of upper garment, the "great-coat" of the fourteenth century. Hence Chaucer:

> "After gret hete cometh cold,
> No man cast his *pylch* away."

Sanger and *Sangster* mean singer. An *Arkwright* was in old times a maker of meal-chests, an article of furniture in every house when families dressed their own flour.* A *Coker* was a maker of charcoal, and a *Pargiter* a maker of parchment. A *Conder* was a person who paraded the sea-shore to watch the approach of the immense shoals of pilchards and herrings, and give notice thereof to the fishermen at a distance by certain understood signals, it being, singularly, a fact, that those migrations cannot be perceived at sea, while from the shore they appear literally to darken the deep. It is remarkable that several of these words have become obsolete since Camden's time.

Kidder is an obsolete word for huxter, *Lavender* for laundress (Chaucer), *Furner* for baker, *Hellier* for tyler, and *Crowther* for a player on the crowd, a species of violin. *Monger* (q. d. a man-of-gere) is equivalent to merchant, whence cheese-monger, iron-monger, &c. It may generally be concluded that names ending in ER were originally names of trades or professions, that termination being a contraction of the Saxon ꝑeꝛ or ꝑeꝛe, a man. Hence Salter is *salt-man*, and Taverner, *tavern-man*. Names in this latter form are rather common: besides those already

* Hunter's Hallamshire Glossary, p. 5.

quoted we have *Horsman*, *Palfriman*, and *Coltman*; *Cartman*, *Wainman*, *Carman*, and *Coachman*; *Woolman*, *Clothman*, *Tubman*, and *Spelman*, which, according to Camden, means a learned man.

There are *some* names of this kind for which it is difficult to account; *Walker* is said to signify a fuller, and *Traveller* is easily understood, but what can be said of *Ryder*, *Ambler*, *Trotter*, *Hopper*, *Skipper*, *Jumper*, and *Hobler?**

Names of this description, however mean their origin, are now to be found in the highest classes of society. The names *Collier* and *Salter* are, or have been, in the British peerage, although those occupations were, in the middle ages, considered so vile and menial, that none but bondmen or slaves would follow them. Some names of this sort have been changed in orthography to hide their original meanness, or "mollified ridiculously," as Camden has it, lest their bearers "should seeme vilified by them." *Carteer*, *Tailleure*, and *Smeeth*, occur frequently as the substitutes of Carter, Taylor, and Smith. "Wise was the man that told my Lord Bishop, that his name was not Gardener, as the English pronounce it, but Gardiner, with the French accent, and *therefore a gentleman*."† Some names have reference to military pursuits, as *Harman*, *Arblaster*, &c. mentioned hereafter, as well as *Hookman*, *Billman*, *Spearman*, *Bowman*, and *Bannerman*.

The number of names connected with the pleasures of the chase furnish evidence of the predilection of our progenitors for field-sports. Thus we have in great numbers our *Hunters*, *Fowlers*, *Fishers*, *Falconers*, *Faulkners*, or

* The last may be from *hobiler*, a light-armed soldier of the fifteenth century. Vide Bailey's Dict. in voc. HOBBLER.

† Camden.

Fawkeners, Hawkers, Anglers, Bowyers, and *Bowmakers, Stringers;* that is, bow-string makers; *Arrowsmiths,* or makers of arrows; *Fletchers* (from the Fr. *fleche*), that is, either an arrow-maker, or, more generally, a superintendent of archery; but some of these may be official names, and therefore more properly belong to the next essay. *Todhunter* seems to be of this kind, but then what is a *Tod?* Probably it was a name given to some one of the smaller animals of the chase. *Burder* occurs in the sixteenth century in the sense of fowler, as the following little jest will show:

"There was a doctour on a tyme, whiche desired a fouler, that went to catche byrdes with an owle, that he might go with hym. The *byrder* was content, and dressed him with bows, and set hym by his oule, and bade him say nothynge. Whan he saw the byrdes a lyght a pace, he sayde: There be many byrdes alyghted, drawe thy nettes, where with the byrdes flewe awaye. The *byrder* was very angry, and blamed him greatly for his speakyng. Than he promysed to hold his peace. Whan the *byrder* was in again, and many byrdes were alyghted, mayster Doctour said in Latyn, AVES PERMULTE ADSUNT; wherwith the byrdes flewe away. The *byrder* came out ryghte angrye and sore displeased, and sayde, that by his bablynge he had twyse loste his pray. 'Why, thynkest thou, foole,' quoth the doctour, 'that the byrdes *do vnderstand Latin?*'"*

Names of occupations have been assumed as hereditary surnames in almost every nation in Christendom, but the

* Tales and Quicke Answeres, very mery, &c.

number of such names in England probably exceeds that of all other countries.

Before leaving this division of my subject I may notice a fact which is little known, and which cannot fail to excite the reader's astonishment: *the surname Butcher was given as a title of honour.* "LE BOUCHER," says Saintfoix,* "was antiently a *noble surname* given to a general after a victory, in commemoration of his having slaughtered some thirty or forty thousand men!" *Horribile dictu!* henceforward let all lovers of peace exclaim,

"*One* murder makes a villain; *millions*, a BUTCHER!"

* "*Le Boucher* étoit anciennement un surnom *glorieux* qu'on donnoit à un général, après une victoire, en *reconnoissance* du *carnage* qu'il avoit fait de trente ou quarante mille hommes." (*Saintfoix, Historical Essays quoted by Nares.*)

ESSAY V.

NAMES DERIVED FROM DIGNITIES, CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL; AND FROM OFFICES.

THE same principle which introduced surnames, borrowed from trades and occupations, led to the adoption of the names of dignities and offices, which also became hereditary.

The following is a list of English surnames derived from civil dignities, according to the rules of precedence:

EMPEROR.
KING.
PRINCE.
DUKE.
EARLE.
BARON.
LORD.
KNIGHT.
SQUIRE.
GENTLEMAN.
YEOMAN.

The following are from Ecclesiastical dignities:

POPE.	PRIEST.
CARDINAL.	DEACON.
BISHOP, BYSSHOPP.	CLERK, CLARK, CLARKE.*
ABBOTT.	CHAPLIN.
PRIOR, PRYOR.	FRIAR, FRYER.
DEAN.	MONK.
ARCHDEACON.	NUNN.
PARSONS.	PROCTOR.
VICAR, VICKERS.	SAXTON.

The following offices have all lent their designations as names of families: *Stewart* (steward), *Constable, Marshall, Chancellor, Chamberlayne, Sheriff, Serjeant, Castellan, Mayor, Warden, Burgess, Porter, Champion, Beadle, Page, Reeve, Woodreeve, Ranger, Bailey* (bailiff), *Parker, Forester, Botiler* (or *Butler*), *Hunter, Falconer,* &c. Many offices, &c. now obsolete, have also conferred surnames on the persons who bore them, as

Le Despencer, corruptly *Spencer;* and *Horden.* A steward. The ancestor of the family of Spencer, dukes of Marlborough, was *dispenser* or steward of the household to William the Conqueror.

Staller, a standard-bearer.

Foster, a nourisher; one who had the care of the children of great men. We have also *Nurse,* as a surname.

Kemp, a soldier, especially one who engaged in single combat. In this sense it has been revived in the works of Sir Walter Scott.

* "Adam the Clerk, son of Philip the Scribe," occurs in an antient record, as also does "Alexander, the son of Glay the Seneschal."

Segar and *Seagar*, (Sax. Sigher,) a vanquisher.

Latimer. This name was first given to Wrenoc ap Merrick, a learned Welshman, who held certain lands by the service of being *latimer* or interpreter between the Welsh and the English; and the name of his office descended to his posterity, who were afterwards ennobled as English peers.*

Valvasour, (now more generally written *Vavasour*,) an office or dignity taking rank below a baron, and above a knight. Bracton says, "there are for the civil government of mankind, emperors, kings, and princes, magnates, or *valvasours* and knights." In the Norman reigns there was a king's valvasour, whose duty probably consisted in keeping ward *ad valvas Regni*, at the entrances and borders of the realm; whence the name.

Arblaster, a corruption of Balistarius, one who directed the great engines of war used before the invention of cannon.

Spigurnell, a sealer of writs.

Avery. Camden places this among Christian names, but query, is it not the name of an office—*Aviarius*, a keeper of the birds? The Charter of Forests (section 14) enacts that "every freeman may have in his woods *avyries* of sparhawks, falcons, eagles, and herons." But there is another distinct derivation of this name, for *Avery*, according to Bailey, signifies "a place where the oats (*avenæ*,) or provender are kept for the King's horses."

Franklin, a dignity next to the esquires and gentlemen of olden times, the antient representative of the class of superior freeholders, known in later times as country

* Vide Burke's Ext. Peerage.

'squires. Fortescue, de Legibus Angliæ, (c. 29,) describes a *franklein* as "pater-familias—magnis ditatus possessionibus." "Moreover, the same country (namely England,) is so filled and replenished with landed menne, that therein so small a thorpe cannot be found wherein dwelleth not a knight or an esquire, or such a householder as is there commonly called a *franklein*, enriched with great possessions, and also *other freeholders* and many yeomen, able for their livelihood to make a jury in form aforementioned."* Chaucer's description of a Franklin is everything that could be wished:

A FRANKELEIN was in this compagnie;
White was his berd, as is the dayesie.
Of his complexion he was sanguin.
Wel loved he by the morwe a sop in win[e]
To liven in delit was ever his wone,
For he was Epicure's owen sone,
That held opinion that plein delit
Was verally felicite parfite.
An housholder, and that a grete was he;
Seint Julian,† he was in his contree;
His brede, his ale, was alway after on;
A better *envyned*‡ man was no wher non,
Withouten bake-mete never was his hous,
Of fish and flesh, and that so plenteous,
It snewed in his hous of mete and drinke,
Of alle daintees that men coud of thinke,
After the sondry sesons of the yere,
So changed he his mete and his soupere.
Ful many a fat partrich hadde he in mewe,
And many a breme, and many a luce in stewe.
Wo was his coke, but if his sauce were
Poinant and sharpe, and ready all his gere.

* Old Translation of Fortescue de L. L. Ang.
† St. Julian was the patron of hospitality.
‡ *Envyned*, that is, stored with wine.

His table dormant in his halle alway
Stode redy covered alle the longe day.
At sessions ther was he lord and sire,
Ful often time he was knight of the shire;
An anelace, and a gipciere all of silk
Heng at his girdel, white as morwe milk.
A shereve hadde he ben, and a countour.
Was no wher swiche a worthy vavasour."*

Heriot, a provider of furniture for an army.

Cohen, a usual name amongst the Jews, signifies priest.

Somner, one whose duty consisted in citing delinquents to the ecclesiastical courts; an apparitor. The office existed in Chaucer's time under the orthography of *sompnoure*, literally summoner, *sompne* being then the mode of spelling the verb. In the Coventry Mysteries we have the following:

"*Sim* SOMNOR, in hast.wend thou thi way,
Byd Joseph, and his wyff, be name,
At the *coorte to apper* this day,
Hem to pourge of her defame."

Chaucer's portrait of the Sompnour is one of the best in his inimitable gallery. He

". . . . hadde a fire-red cherubinne's face
. . . . . .
With scalled browes blake and pilled berd,
Of his visage children were sore aferd.
[He loved] to drinke strong wIn as rede as blood,
Then wolde he speke, and crie as he were wood.
And whan that he wel dronken had the wIn,
Than wolde he speken no word but Latin.
A fewe termes coude† *he*, two or three
That he had lerned out of som decree;

* Canterbury Tales. Prologue. Vol. i. p. 44. Edit. 1825.
† He knew.

With Peter's keys in cloth of red
On his broad shoulders wrought;
The scallop-shell his cap did deck;
The crucifix around his neck
Was from Loretto brought;
His sandals were with travel tore,
Staff, budget, bottle, scrip he wore;
The faded *palm-branch* in his hand
Shewed pilgrim from the Holy Land."

The origin of the name of *Gear* is curious. In the "olden tyme" great men employed an officer to superintend the provision of their entertainments and the equipment of their armed retainers; and, as all sorts of wearing apparel, arms,* utensils, and chattels in general, were called *gere* or *gear*, this person would very naturally acquire the name of *John-of-the-Gear*, *John-o-Gear*; and, at length, *John Gear*.

The termination *ward* indicates some office, and is equivalent to *keeper* or *custos*—thus *Milward* is the keeper of a mill (probably some manorial or monastic mill;) *Kenward*, the dog-keeper; *Aylward*, the ale-keeper; *Durward*, the porter or door-keeper; *Hayward*, the keeper of a common herd of cattle belonging to some town; and *Woodward*, a forest-keeper, "an officer that walks with a forest-bill, and takes cognizance of all offences committed, at the next swain-mote or court of attachments."† *Howard* certainly belongs to this family of names, but antiquaries are not agreed as to the meaning of the first syllable.

* Thus in the old poem of Flodden Field:

"Then did he send Sir William Bulmer,
And bad hym on the borders lye,
With ordinance and other *gear*,
Each fenced house to fortify."

† Bailey's Dict.

Camden makes it the *high-warden*; Spelman, the *hall-keeper;* Verstegan, the *keeper of a strong-hold;* and Skinner, a *keeper of hospitality*. What such great names cannot agree upon, I shall not attempt to decide.

Granger, the superintendent of a grange—a great farm pertaining to some abbey or priory.

Portman, an officer, now called a *portreeve*, with duties similar to those of a mayor. The sessions of some of the older corporations were formerly called *portmannimotes*, or portman's courts.

Palliser, a person who had the care of the palings of a park or forest.

Having given this long list of names derived from titles and offices, I shall next attempt to account for their having been adopted as the designations of families.

That the first of the name of King, Prince, or Duke, held either of those dignities is too preposterous for belief. Nor is it more likely that the inferior titles of Knight and Squire were so derived, for that would have been a mean kind of nomenclature. If a person were really a knight or an esquire, he would prefer styling himself Sir Roger de Such-a-place, or John So-and-so, Esquire, to taking the simple designation of his rank as a surname. Again, in ecclesiastical dignities this could not have been the case, seeing that all churchmen, from his holiness of Rome down to the meanest curate, led a life of celibacy, and, consequently, had no *recognized* posterity.

It has been conjectured, however, that these names indicate bastardy, and that the persons bearing them are thus *bona fide* of royal, papal, knightly, *squirely*, or priestly descent; a plausible surmise, but the proofs are wanting.

Most of these names, particularly of the secular description, were probably borrowed from the first users of them having acted or personated such characters in mysteries or dramatic representations; or from their having been chosen, as Camden supposes, leaders of the popular sports of the times, as Kings of the Bean, Christmas Lords, &c. The same high authority reminds us that the classical antients had such names as "Basilius, Archias, Archelaus, Flaminius, Cæsarius, Augustulus, &c. who, notwithstanding, were neither Kings, Priests, Dukes, nor Cæsars."

There are those who think the clerical names originated from *widowers* who had gone into the church and gained particular offices in it, having given the designations of such offices as surnames to their children. The Rev. Mark Noble thinks that such as took these names held lands under those who really bore them. This may be true of some of them, both lay and clerical, but it does not account for the higher dignities, as Pope and Emperor, which have never existed in this country. Of all these conjectures, Camden's, although the most humiliating, seems the most probable.

The French name of *Archevesque* (Archbishop) is thus accounted for. Hugh de Lusignan, an archbishop, becoming unexpectedly entitled to the seignories of Parthenay, Soubize, &c., obtained the pope's dispensation to marry, on the condition that his posterity should take the name of *Archbishop*, and bear a mitre over their arms for ever.

None of the objections at page 73 apply to surnames borrowed from offices of the inferior kind, as Steward, Butler, &c.; and we have evidence that family names were borrowed from the offices held by the founders of houses.

We have already seen that the name of Spencer originated in this manner; but there is a more illustrious instance. The name of STUART, borne for centuries by the regal family of Scotland and England, descended to them from Walter, grandson of Banquo, who in the eleventh century was *steward* of Scotland.

In conclusion, I may remark that these high-sounding surnames are a very numerous class. Almost every village has its *King* or *Prince*, or at least its *Knight* or *Squire*. *Bishops* are, I think, rather more numerous than parish churches; and as for *Popes*, it is no unusual circumstance to find *eight* or *ten* dwelling together in perfect amity, a thing never heard of at Rome, where only *two* have been known to set Christendom in a blaze! The following humorous *morceau* will form an appropriate tail-piece to my present essay:

"**True Copy** of a jury taken before Judge Doddridge, at the assizes holden at Huntingdon, A.D. 1619." [It is necessary to remark that "the judge had, in the preceding circuit, censured the sheriff for empanneling men not qualified by rank for serving on the grand jury, and the sheriff, being a humourist, resolved to fit the judge with sounds at least. On calling over the following names, and pausing emphatically at the end of the Christian, instead of the surname, his lordship began to think he had indeed a jury of quality]:

"Maximilian KING of Toseland,
Henry PRINCE of Godmanchester,
George DUKE of Somersham,
William MARQUIS of Stukeley,
Edmund EARL of Hartford,
Richard BARON of Bythorn,

Stephen POPE of Newton,
Stephen CARDINAL of Kimbolton,
Humphrey BISHOP of Buckden,
Robert LORD of Waresley,
Robert KNIGHT of Winwick,
William ABBOTT of Stukeley,
Robert BARON of St. Neots,
William DEAN of Old Weston,
John ARCHDEACON of Paxton,
Peter ESQUIRE of Easton,
Edward FRYER of Ellington,
Henry MONK of Stukeley,
George GENTLEMAN of Spaldwick,
George PRIEST of Graffham,
Richard DEACON of Catworth.

"The judge, it is said, was highly pleased with this practical joke, and commended the sheriff for his ingenuity. The descendants of some of these illustrious jurors still reside in the county, and bear the same names; in particular, a Maximilian King, we are informed, still presides over Toseland."*

* History of Huntingdon, 12mo, 1824; also quoted by Nares.

ESSAY VI.

SURNAMES DERIVED FROM PERSONAL AND MENTAL QUALITIES.

THESE seem to form one of the most obvious sources of surnames, and a prolific source it has been. Nothing would be more natural, at the first assumption of surnames, than for a person of dark complexion to take the name of *Black* or *Blackman*, a tawny one that of *Browne*, and a pale one that of *White* or *Whiteman*. So, doubtless, originated *Rufus*, *Rous*, *Rousseau* (Fr.), and *Russel* (which seem only modifications of one word signifying RED), *Redman*, *Pink*, *Tawney*, and perhaps *Scarlett*. As no person ever had a *green face* (however *green* in other respects), we must refer the common surname that represents that colour to a local origin; *John atte the Greene*, *Roger a' Green*, &c., being among the most familiar names of that class. The colour of the *hair* also led to a numerous train of these hereditary *soubriquets* (for they certainly are nothing else): hence *Hoare*, *Grissel*, *Grey*, *Blacklocke*, *Whitelocke*, *Silverlocke*, *Fairhaire*, *Whithair*, *Blound*, that is, fair-haired, *Fairfax*, that is, fair locks, *Pigot*, that is, speckled, *Blackbeard*, *Whitehead*, *Blackhead*, *Redhead*, &c. But it was not from the head alone that names of this description were taken, for we have, in respect of other personal qualities, our *Longs* and our *Shorts*; our

Langmans, Longmans, and *Longfellows;* our *Biggs* and our *Broads;* our *Greats* and our *Smalls;* our *Strongs* and our *Weaklys;* our *Strongmans, Strongers, Strongfellows, Strongi' th' arms,* and *Armstrongs;* our *Littles* and our *Lowes,* and even our LITTLERS and our LOWERS (!) our *Goodbodies* and our *Freebodies;* our *Groses* and our *Thynnes;** our *Swifts* and our *Slowmans, Speeds, Quicks,* and *Quicklys;* our *Plaines* and our *Prettys;* our *Larges* and our *Pettys;* our *Lovelys* and our *Plainers;* our *Fatts* and our *Stouts;* our *Darkmans* and our *Lillywhites,* our *Lightfoots* and our *Heavisides,* with many more whose meaning is less obvious.

Among these may be noticed, *Starkie,* strong of body; *Fiest,* broad-footed; *Crumpe,* crooked; *Mewet,* one who speaks inwardly; *Lizar,* a leprous person; *Morphew,* a scrofulous person; *Michel,* great; *Snell,* agile.† *Bel,* when affixed to LE, is from the French, fair; *Fleet,* swift; *Hale,* healthful; *Holder,* thin; *Carr* and *Ker,* stout.

The very common name of *Reed, Read* or *Reid,* is an old spelling of RED, (a name given, probably, in reference to complexion), thus Chaucer:

"And floures both white and *rede;*"

and Sir John Maundevile, speaking of the Red Sea, says: "That See is not more *reed* than another see; but in some

* This name (so far as one family is concerned) has a different origin. John de Botteville, so lately as the reign of Edward IV., resided at one of the Inns of court, and was thence named *John of th'Inne* (Thynne).—*Brady's Diss.* p. 13.

† "Eadmund cing Iren-sid wæs geclypod for his Snell-scipe. King Edmund was called Iron-side for his hardihood, agility."—*Sax. Chron.* SNELL appears to have been a Christian name before the Conquest, when the name of *Snelson* sometimes occurs.

places thereof is the gravelle *reede:* and therefore men clepen it the *Rede* Sea."

Many names of Welsh or Gaelic origin, common in England, have similar meanings, thus: *More,* great; *Begg,* little; *Roy,* red; *Duff, Dove, Dow, Dee,* black; *Bane* (whence belike *Baynes*), white; *Vaughan,* little; *Moel,* or Mole, bald; *Gam,* crooked; *Fane,* slender; *Grimm,* strong; *Gough,* red; *Gwynne,* white; and *Greig* and *Gregg,* hoarse.

The antients had names of cognate significations, as among the Greeks, Pyrrhus, Chlorus, Chryses, and among the Romans, Candidus, Rutilus, Longus, Paulus, &c. with many others indicative of personal qualities or peculiarities.

Among the names indicative of mental or moral qualities, we have our *Hardys* and our *Cowards;* our *Meeks* and our *Moodys;* our *Bolds* and our *Slyes;* our *Livelys* and our *Sullens;* our *Eagers* and our *Dulmans;* our *Giffords* or liberal ones, and our *Curteises.* CURTEIS I take to be an antient spelling of the adjective *courteous.* Chaucer says of his "yong squier"—

> "*Curteis* he was, gentil and affable."

Nor must we overlook our *Wilds* and our *Sangwines;* our *Merrys* and our *Sobers;* our *Nobles* and our *Willeys,* or favorable ones; our *Blythes* and our *Cleeres;* our *Sternes* and our *Bonnys;* our *Godmans* and our *Godlimans;* our *Wakes* or watchfuls; our *Terrys* or tearful ones; our *Forwards* and our *Wises,* our *Wooralls* or worth-alls,* our *Aylwins,* or beloved of all; our *Proudes* and our *Humbles;* our *Sharpes* and our *Blunts;* our *Sweets* and our *Sweetmans;* our *Illmans* and our *Freemans;* our

* So Verstegan, Restit.

Wisemans and our *Booklesses* (!) our *Stables* and our *Hasties;* our *Gentles* and our *Lawlesses;* our *Giddys* and our *Carelesses;* our *Sadds* and our *Merrymans;* our *Innocents* and our *Peerlesses;* our *Luckies* and our *Faithfuls;* our *Gaudys* and our *Decents;* our *Gallants* and our *Trustys;* our *Dearloves* and our *Trueloves;* our *Truemans* and our *Thankfuls;* our *Brisks* and our *Doolittles;* our *Dears* and our *Darlings;* our *Closes* and our *Allfrees;* our *Brightmans* and our *Flatmans;* and, to close this long catalogue, our *Goods, Goodmans, Goodchilds, Goodfellows,* our *Thoroughgoods, Allgoods, Bests, Perfects,* and *Goodenoughs;* and, what is very extraordinary indeed, our *Toogoods!*

To these (from less obvious origins) add, if you will, *Stunt* (Stunta, *Sax.*) angry, sullen; taken substantively it means a fool, by no means an enviable designation, but far from applicable to all who bear it; *Widmer* (Pýð, wide, and Mearn, fame, *Sax.*) widely renowned; *Hubbard* (Huzh-beapt, *Sax.*) disposed to joy and gladness; *Joyce,* the same; *Hogarth* (Dutch,) high-natured, generous; *Shire,* clear; *Baud,* pleasant; *Rush,* subtle; *Barrat,* cunning, &c.

Very much do these resemble the Agathias, Andragathius, Sophocles, Eubulus, Prudentius, Pius, Constans, &c. of the classical antients. Indeed there is scarcely any kind of names now in use that has not its prototype among the Greeks and Romans.

To this list of names from personal and mental qualities, I may appropriately adjoin such as had their origin in some feat of personal strength or courage, as *Armstrong* (already mentioned), *All-fraye, Langstaff, Wagstaff, Shakestaff, Shakespeare,* or, as Mr. C. Knight will have it, *Shakspere*) and *Bickerstaff.* (Query, does the last signify

a staff for tilting or skirmishing?*) Also *Box-all, Tire-buck, Turnbull,*† and *Breakspear,* which was the original name of our countryman, Pope Hadrian the Fourth.

"*Harman,*" observes Verstegan, "should rightly be *Heartman,* to wit, a man of heart or courage." It also signifies a soldier or constable, in both which avocations "heart, or courage" is necessary. *Holman* may be *Whole-man,* a man of undeniable valour—a man, every inch of him. Analagous to this etymology is that of the patrial noun *Alman* or German, which, according to Verstegan, "is as much to say as ALL OR WHOLLY A MAN," attributed to that nation "in regard of their great manliness and valour."

There are certain surnames which I have the greatest difficulty in assigning to any particular class. *Gladman* probably belongs to those derived from mental peculiarities, but *Deadman* is a complete nondescript—the most absurd appellation ever given to living creature. I know several people of this name.

* See Bailey's Dict. Voc. *Bicker.*

† During our wars with the Scotch in the days of Edward I., one *Turnbull* —a man of gigantic power—was champion of the Scottish army.

ESSAY VII.

SURNAMES DERIVED FROM CHRISTIAN NAMES.

EVERYBODY must have remarked the great number of names of this kind. Who is there among my readers who does not immediately call to mind some score or two of Edwardses, Johnsons, Stevenses, and Harrisons, in the circle of his acquaintance. Yet such names are far more common than at first sight they appear to be, as I shall prove before I arrive at the end of this essay.

Many of the christian or fore-names of our ancestors were taken up without any addition or change, as *Anthony, Andrew, Abel, Allen, Arnold, Ambrose, Amos, Alexander, Amos, Baldwin, Bartholomew, Boniface, Bryan, Barnard, Charles, Clement, Cecil, Cuthbert, Dunstan, Donald, Dennis, David, Daniel, Edgar, Ellis, Everard, Frederick, Gregory, Goddard, Godfrey, Gervaise* (now *Jarvis*), *Griffith, Guy, George, Gerard, Gilbert, Henry, Howell, Humphry, Herbert, Hilary, Isaac, Ingram, James, Jeffrey, Lawrence, Leonard, Lambert, Lewis, Martin, Matthew, Miles, Morgan, Neale, Nicholas, Oliver, Osmond, Owen, Paul, Percival, Philip, Ralph* (usually written *Relf*), *Randal, Reynold, Rice, Sampson, Silvanus, Simeon, Theobald, Thomas, Titus, Valentine, Vincent, Walton*, &c.

Great numbers of these have been assumed in the genitive case, as John Reynolds, for John the son of Reynold, James Phillips, for James the son of Philip; others have been corrupted in various ways, as *Bennet* from Benedict, *Cutbeard* from Cuthbert, *Emary* from Almeric, *Errey* from Eric, *Stace* from Eustace, &c.

Camden has a list of other surnames, formed of such forenames as are now obsolete, and only occur in Doomsday Book and other records of antient date. From this list, and from another by Dr. Pegge in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1772, p. 318, I select such as I have myself met with, omitting from the doctor's catalogue those names which are still common as christian names.

ANSTIS (Anastasius).
AYSCOUGH, ASKEW (Asculphus).
AUCHER.
ANSELL (Anselm).

BAYNARD.
BRAND (*Sax. Chron.*)
BENNET (St. Benedict).
BRANDON.
BALDRIC.
BARDOLPH.
BARCHARD (Belchard).
BARRINGER (Berengerius).
BERNERS.
BRYANT (Brient).

COLEMAN (*Bede*).
CADMAN (Cædman).

CHRISTIAN.
CALFE.

DEGORY.
DURRANT (Durandus).
DREW (Drogo).
DODD.

EDOLPH (Eadulph, *Sax. Chron.*)
ELLIS (Elias).*
ELMER (Ælmer).
EVEREST, EVERY (Everard).
EACHARD (Achard, *Doomsday*).
ETTY (Eddy).
EDLIN (Atheling).
EADE, EADES (Eudo).

FULKE (Fulco).
FARAND, FARRANT (Ferdinand).
FOLKARD (Fulcher).

GIRTH.
GODWIN, GOODWIN.
GOODRICH.
GOODLUCK (*Doomsday*).
GRIMES (Grime).
GUNTER (*Ingulphus*).
GAMBLE (Gamel, *Sax.*)

HASSELL (Asceline).
HESKETH (Hascuith).
HARMAN (*Sax. Chron.*)—See page 81.

* The Ellises of Yorkshire consider themselves to be surnamed from *Eliseus* in Normandy.

HODE, HOAD, HOOD (Odo).
HAKE (Haco).
HAMLIN (Hammeline).
HARDING (*Ingulph*).
HAMMOND (Hamon).
HARVEY (Hervey).
HEWARD.
HERWARD.
HUBERT.

IVE.

JERNEGAN.
JOLLANDE.

KETTLE (Chetell, *Doomsday*).

LUCY (Lucius).

MERVYN (Merfin).
MALLET (*Sax. Chron.*)
MAYNARD.
MASSEY (Macey, *Doomsday*).

ORSON (Urso), whence Fitz-Urse.
ODY (Odo).
ORME.
OTHER.

REYNER (Reinardus).
RAYMOND.
ROTHERY (Rodericus).
ROLLE (Raoul).

SAER, now SAYERS.
SEARLE (Serlo).
SEMAR.
SEWELL (Sewallus).
SEAWARD (Siwardus).
SWAIN (Sweyn).
SEABRIGHT (Sigebert).
SELWYN.
SAVERY (Savaricus).
SANKEY (Sancho).
SEMPLE, SAMPOL (St. Paul).
SAMPIERE (St. Peter).
STYDOLPH (St. Edolph).
SAMAND (St. Amado).
SIMBERD (St. Barbe).

TIPPLE (Theobald).
TIPPET (the same).
TOBY (St. Olave).
TERRY (Theodoric).
TOVY.
TURROLD or TURREL (Thorold).

ULMER.

VIVIAN.

WISHART (Wiscard).
WADE.
WARNER.
WIMBLE, WIMBOLL (Winebald, *Doomsday*).

From this enumeration I omit many of the names called by Camden "Christian names in use about the time of the Conquest," such as *Hasting, Howard, Talbot, Pipard, Poyntz.* What, I ask, are these but *surnames?* Does not the fact of such names occurring singly in *Doomsday Book,* add weight to the opinion I expressed at page 16?

We have a few surnames from Welsh Christian names, as *Cradock* (from Caradoc), *Chowne* (from Chun), *Merricks* and *Meyrick* (from Meirric), *Meredith,* and *Madox,* corrupted to *Maddicks,* 'whereby hangs a tale.' "Are you acquainted with *mathematics?*" asked a young pedant of a country acquaintance. "No," was the reply, "I know *Tom Maddicks* and *Will Maddicks,* but as to *Matthy,* I never heard tell on him before."

Next in order come the names terminating with SON, as *Adamson, Johnson, Henryson, Clementson, Richardson, Phillipson,* &c. whose derivation is clear, together with *Heardson, Crowson, Quilson, Wigson,* &c. from corrupted names, or from names no longer in use. Many of these were doubtless assumed before the Conquest, as we find *Grimkelson, Gamelson,* &c. in the time of Edward the Confessor, if not earlier. The Norman FITZ, a corruption of FILS, was used in the same way; and among the conquered Saxons was sometimes adopted instead; thus *Waltersonne* and *Geroldsonne* became *Fitz-Walter* and *Fitz-Gerald,** generally however the FITZ denotes a Norman extraction. Sometimes, but rarely, SON was appended to a profession, trade, title, or condition, as

* "The use of the prefix FITZ has, with propriety, been revived in modern times. The eldest son of Harris, Earl of Malmesbury, is, by title of courtesy, Viscount Fitz-Harris."

Dukeson, Clarkson, Cookson, Wrightson, Smithson, Masterson, Stewardson, and *Widowson.*

The FITZ or SON conjoined to a female name is thought to denote illegitimacy, as *Fitz-Parnell, Fitz-Emma, Anson, Eveson, Emson,* and *Nelson,* from Ann, Eve, Emma, and Nel or Eleanor. So also *Susans, Maudlins* (Magdalene), *Avis* (Hawisa), *Grace, Hannah, Pegge,* that is Margery, *Mary, Rachel, Jane,* and the like. But it should be remembered that the Romans occasionally used their mother's name, when born in wedlock; and that our Henry the Second called himself *Fitz-Empress.*

Other names are formed of, and upon, the cant or abbreviated Christian names; ("pardon me," saith Master Camden, "if I offend any, for it is but my *coniecture,*") as Nat for Nathaniel; Bill for William, Wat for Walter, "and many such like, which you may learn of *nurses!*" Whether these odd monosyllables were originally applied to children as terms of endearment, and thus acquired the appellation of *nurse-names,* I cannot say. However they originated they are plentiful enough, and of considerable antiquity. The poet Gower has the following verses on the occasion of Wat Tyler's insurrection, which are curious as containing several of these abbreviated names in a Latin dress:

"WATTE vocat, cui THOMA venit neque SYMME retardat,
BATque, GIBBE simul, HYKKE venire subent:
COLLE furit, quem BOBBE juvat, nocumenta parantes
Cum quibus ad damnum WILLE coire volat,
GRIGGE rapit, dum DAVIE strepit, comes est quibus HOBBE,
LARKIN et in medio non minor esse putat;
HUDDE ferit, quem JUDDE terit, dum TIBBE juvatur,
JACKE domosque viros vellit, en ense necat," &c.

Andrews has rendered these lines in the following humorous manner:

"WAT cries, TOM flies, nor SYMKIN stays aside;
And BATT and GIBB and HYKE, they summon loud;
COLLIN and BOB combustibles provide,
While WILL the mischief forwards in the crowd;
GREG hawls, HOB bawls, and DAVY joins the cry,
With LARKIN not the least among the throng;
HODD drubs, JUDD scrubs, while TIB stands grinning by,
And JACK with sword and fire-brand madly strides along!"*

The names of the class of which I am now treating are exceedingly numerous, as EIGHT, TEN, or even FIFTEEN surnames are sometimes formed upon a single Christian name. The name of *William*, indeed, is the basis of no less than TWENTY-ONE such names, as will be seen by referring to the list I am about to place before the reader. Besides the syllable SON, annexed to the cant names SIM, WILL, HODGE, &c. we have three principal terminations; KIN, OT, and COCK, as *Simkin*, *Wilmot*, *Hedgcock*. Of the first two it is only necessary to state that they are diminutives; *-kin* being derived from the Flemish, and *-ot* from the French. Thus *Timpkin* stands for "little Tim" or Timothy, and Adcot for "little Ade, or Adam." But the termination COCK is not so easily disposed of. Camden appears to derive it from the male of birds: hence among his names deduced from the "winged nation," he places *Alcocke*,

* Respecting these abbreviated names Camden remarks, that they "seeme to proceede from nurses to their nurslings; or from fathers and maisters to their boyes and seruants; for as according to the old prouerbe, *Omnis herus seruo monosyllabus*, in respect to their short commands; so *Omnis seruus hero monosyllabus*, in respect of the curtolling their names." (Remaines, p. 102.)

Wilcocke, and *Handcocke;* but, so far as I am acquainted with our provincial dialects, those are not names locally assigned to any particular species of birds, as some others (shrillcock, stormcock, &c.) are well known to be. We must therefore look elsewhere for the derivation of the term.

Considerable discussion on this very subject took place in the pages of the Gentleman's Magazine not long since, the substance of which is given below. A correspondent, J. A. C. K., in an article published in that periodical in the number for May 1837, speaking of the great number of surnames of which COCK is a component syllable, observes, that "many of them are evidently borrowed from the animal creation, as PEACOCK, employed to designate a vain, showy fellow; WOODCOCK, applied to a silly coxcomb; and SHILCOCK, that is *shrillcock*, a Derbyshire provincialism for the throstle. BOCOCK or BAWCOCK is, of course, nothing more nor less than the French Beaucoq, fine fellow." ALCOCK, BADCOCK, DRAWCOCK, GROCOCK, SLOCOCK, this sapient scribbler casts aside as "indelicate," "LUCCOCK or LUCKCOCK;" he continues, "probably denotes some *lucky individual* (!) With respect to HITCHCOCK, it appears to have been synonymous with woodcock, and employed to signify a silly fellow ..... GLASSCOCK, ADCOCK, MULCOCK, bid defiance to all etymology, unless the termination be a corruption of *cot*. Thus Glasscock becomes Glas-cote, Adcock, At-Cote, &c. ..... It seems highly probable that ATCOCK and ALCOCK, HICCOCK and WILCOCK, are but varieties of Atcot and Alket, Hickot and Wilkot, the familiar terms At and Hal, Hick and Will, for Arthur, Henry, Isaac and William. As far as relates to the latter name, Wilcock, I am decidedly of opinion

that such has been its original form, corroborated as it is by the surnames of *Wilcockes* and *Wilcoxon*, still existing amongst us."

This communication led to a second, (Gent. Mag. Sept. 1837,) in which the writer observes, that only six out of the ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY names containing this mysterious syllable can be assigned to the animal creation; while he is inclined to think many of the names *local*, being derived from *cock*, a hillock: *Cockburn*, the burn by the hillock; *Cockham*, the hamlet by the hillock: so also *Cockfield*, *Cocksedge*, *Cockwood*, &c. The reader will remark that in this article the examples are chosen from such names as have COCK for their initial, and not for their final syllable, and therefore do not aid our enquiry; although the derivation of Cockburn, &c. is probably correct.

J. C. N. in a third article on the same topic, (Gent. Mag., May, 1838,) remarks that the word "often occurs in the records of this country under the various forms of Coc, Koc, le Cok, le Coq, &c., answering in fact, to the Latin *Coquus*, more usually, during the middle ages, written Cocus, and while the greater number of those antient professors of the culinary art have modified their orthography to Coke, or Cooke, or Cook, others have evidently retained the final C, and thus assimilated their names to the victims instead of the lords of the kitchen. Hence we proceed to COCK, COCKS, and COX." He then quotes the Great Rolls of the Exchequer for 25 Hen. III. 1241, in which one Adam Coc or Cok is commissioned by the king to superintend certain repairs at Clarendon palace, "and to instruct the workmen, so that the *kitchen* and stables might be enclosed within the outer wall." Having

hit upon this clue, he thinks it leads to an explanation of some of the names ending in COCK, as *Meacock*, the MEAT-cook (!) *Salcock*, the SALT-MEAT-cook (!!) *Slocock*, the SLOW-cook (!!!) and Badcock the IMPERFECT-cook (!!!!) ..... *Grococke* is the GROSS or *wholesale* cook... or, perhaps, *le gros coc*, or *fat cook* (!!) and those compounded with Christian names are thus readily accounted for. *Wilcox*, will be William the Cook; HANCOCK, Johan the Cook; SANDERCOCK, Alexander the Cook; JEFFCOCK, Jeffry the Cook, &c.* The ALLCOCKS may be descended from Hal the Cook, unless their great ancestor was *Aulecocus*, the Hall-Cook." Some others he thinks have originated from names of *places*, as LAYCOCK from Lacock, in Wiltshire, &c. &c.; others from the *bird*, from their being persons of noisy or pugnacious dispositions, or perhaps from their practice of *early rising* (!) COCKERELL (he justly says) is derived "from cockerell, a young or dwarf bird of that species."

That *Peacock*, *Woodcock*, and a few others, are derived from birds, is unquestionable, seeing that we have the congenerous names Raven, Finch, Sparrow, &c. from that source; and that others are corruptions of cot, cannot, I think, be denied; but that COCK, as a termination, has aught to do with cocus, coq, or cook is a supposition perfectly ridiculous. As to J. C. N.'s record in the Exchequer Rolls, it is a most amusing piece of nonsense to imagine that the said Adam Coc was the royal *cook*. Who indeed ever heard of a cook's possessing any architectural

* If Christian names were ever so compounded with avocations, how is it we have no such names as *Han*-SMITH as well as Hancock; *Will*MILLER as well as Wilcock; *Sander*-TAILOR as well as Sandercock?

skill beyond what is required in the construction of the walls of a gooseberry tart or a venison pasty? Besides, what had a cook to do with walling in the royal stables? We have just as much right to assume that he was the king's farrier. But even admitting this said Adam's surname to have been originally derived from that necessary office of the kitchen, does it at all explain Meacock, Salcock, &c.? I do not consider the question deserving of a serious reply.

What then *is* the meaning of COCK? Why, it is simply a diminutive, the same as OT or KIN. This opinion I had formed long before I saw the correspondence just noticed, and it is supported by numerous proofs. I do not profess to assign a satisfactory meaning to all the names with this termination; yet I think I have been successful in affixing that of five-sixths of all such names as I have ever met with. And I doubt not that the remainder might be explained with equal facility were not the Christian names, of which they are the diminutives, extinct. Badcock and Salcock in J. C. N.'s list are evidently "Little Bat," that is, Bartholomew; and "Little Saul," which, however unenviable a name, was sometimes used by our ancestors. In like manner we may account for *Wilcocke* or *Wilcox*, "Little William," *Allcock*, "little Hal or Harry," *Luckock*, "little Luke," and the rest. My old friend, N. Bailey, Φιλολογος, whom I have found very useful in these matters, has not the word *cock* in this sense, but he has the old Latin terms Coca, a *little* boat, and Cocula, a *small* drinking cup, which I think help me a "little." The term, in its simple form, was probably never used except in a familiar colloquial manner, and in this way the lower orders in the south of England, are still accustomed to address "little" boys with "Well, my *little Cock*," a

piece of tautology of which they are not at all aware. I was long puzzled with the surname *Coxe*, which I have now no hesitation in calling a synonyme of *Little*. Mr. COXHEAD is probably Mr. LITTLE-HEAD, (in contradistinction, I presume, to Mr. GREATHEAD.) What a pity it is the syllables of that gentleman's name were not transposed, for he might then stand a fair chance of obtaining the preferment of HEAD-COOK in J. C. N.'s kitchen!

But lest I should be accused of making "much ado about nothing," I proceed to set down my list of son-names, nurse-names, and diminutives, which I hope will furnish some amusement to the reader:

From ADAM are derived Adams, Adamson, Ade,* Adye, Addison, *Adcock*, Addiscot, and *Addiscock*.

ABRAHAM, Abrahams, Mabb, Mabbs, and Mabbot.

ARTHUR, Atts, Atty, Atkins, Atkinson, and *Atcock*.

ANDREW, Andrews, Anderson, Henderson.

ALEXANDER, Sanders, Sanderson, *Sandercock*.

AINULPH, Haynes, Hainson.

ALLAN, Allanson, Hallet, Elkins, Elkinson.

ANTHONY, Tony, Tonson, Tonkin.

BENJAMIN, Benn, Benson, *Bancock*, and *Benhacock*.

BALDWIN, Ball, *Bawcock*.

BARTHOLOMEW, Batts, Bates, Batson, Bartlett, *Batcock*.

CHRISTOPHER, Christopherson, Kister, Kitts, Kitson.

CUTHBERT, Cuthbertson, Cutts.

* Adam is usually abbreviated to *Ade* in the Nonarum Rolls, and other antient records.

From CRISPIN, Crispe, Cripps.
CLEMENT, Clements, Climpson.
CHARLES, Kell, Kelson, Kelley.
DROGO, Drew, Dray, Drayson, *Drocock*.
DONALD, Donaldson, Donkin.
DENNIS, Denison, Tennison.
DANIEL, Dann, Daniels, *Tancock*.
DUNSTAN, Dunn, (if not from the colour.)
DAVID, Davey, Daffy, Davison, Davis, Dawes, Dawkins, Dawkinson, Dawson.
EDWARD, Edwards, Ethards, Edes, Edkins.
ELIAS, Ellis, Ellison, Elliot.
EDMUND, Edmunds, Edmundson, Munn.
FRANCIS, Frank, Frankes.
GILBERT, Gill, Gillot, Gilpin, Gibb, Gibbs, Gibbon, Gibbons, Gibson.
GREGORY, Gregg, Gregson, Grocock.
GODARD or GODFREY, Godkin, Goddin, Goad.
GEOFFRY, Jefferson, Jeffson, Jepson, *Jeffcock*.
HENRY, Henrison, Harry, Harris, Harrison, Hal, Halket, Hawes, Halse, Hawkins, Hawkinson, Haskins, *Alcock*.
HUGH, Hewson, Hugget, Huggins, Hugginson, Hewet.
JOHN, Johnes, Jones, Johnson, Janson, Jennings, Jenks, Jenkins, Jenkinson, Jack, Jackson, Juxon, Hanson, *Hancock*.
JUDE, Judd, Judkin, Judson.
JOB, Jubb, Jobson.
JAMES, Jamieson.
JEREMY, Jerrison, Gerison, Jerkin.
JOSEPH, Joskyn.

From ISAAC, Isaacs, Isaacson, Hyke, Hicks, Hixon, Higson, Hickot, *Hiscock*, *Hickox*.

LAWRENCE, Larry, Larkins, Lawson.

LUKE, Luckins, *Luckock*.

MATTHEW, Mathews, Matheson, Matson, Madison.

MAURICE, Morrison, Mockett, Moxon.

MARK, *Markcock*.

NICHOLAS, Nicholls, Nicholson, Nickson, Nixon, Cole, Colet, Colson, Collins, Collison, *Glascock*.

NEAL or NIGELL, Neale, Neilson, Nelkins.

NATHANIEL, Natkins.

PETER, Peterson, Pierce, Pierson, Perkin, Parkins, Parkinson.

PHILIP, Phillips, Philps, Phipps, Phippen, Philpot, Phillot, *Philcox*.

PAUL, Paulett, Pawson, *Pocock*.

PATRICK, Patrickson, Paterson, Patson.

RALPH, Rawes, Rawson, Rawlins, Rawlinson, Rason.

RANDOLPH, Randalls, Rankin, *Ranecock*.

RICHARD, Richards, Richardson, Ritchie, Hitchins, Hitchinson, *Hitchcock*, Dick, Dickson, Dixon, Dickens, Dickinson.

ROBERT, Robins, Robinson, Roberts, Robertson, Hobbs, Hobson, Hobkins, Hopkins.

ROGER, Rogerson, Hodges, Hodgson, Hodgkin, Hodgkinson, Hoskin (?) Huskisson (?) Hodd, Hodson (if not from Odo.)

REYNOLD, Renolds, Reynoldson, *Raincock*.

SIMON, Simmonds, Simpson, Simmes, Simpson, Sykes, *Simcock*.

STEPHEN, Stevens, Stephenson, Stiggins, *Stercock* (?)

SILAS or SILVESTER, Silcock.

TIMOTHY, Timms, Timmings, Timpson, Timpkins.

THOMAS, Thom, Thompson, Thomlin, Thomlinson, Tompkins, Tampkins (a northern pronunciation), Tompkisson, Tompsett, Tampsett (northern).

TOBIT, Toby, Towes, Towson.

TURCHETIL, Turke.

THEOBALD, Tibbald, Tipple (a murderous corruption),* Tipkins, Tibbs, Tippet!

WALTER, Walters, Watt, Watts, Watson, Watkins, Watkinson, *Watcock.*

WILLIAM, Williams, Williamson, Wills, Wilks, Wilkins, Wilkinson, Bill, Bilson, Wilson, *Woolcock*, Woolcot, *Wilcocke* and *Wilcox*, *Wilcoxon*, Willet, Willmott, Willy, Till, Tillot, Tilson, Tillotson, Tilly!

The Latin names ending in POR, are said to stand for *puer*, the son of, as Publipor, Marcipor, Lucipor, which signify Publii puer, Marci puer, and Lucii puer.† Nor must it be forgotten that the Romans formed one name upon another, as Constans, Constantius, and Constantine, somewhat analogous to our own mode, in Wilks, Wilkins, Wilkinson, &c. &c.

Camden tells us of a landlord at Grantham who used to make a distinction between guests as they bore the full name or the nick-name. Thus he was accustomed to treat

* I know a place called Tipple's Green, which in old writings is called Theobald's Green.

† Camden, p. 116.

the Robertsons, Johnsons, and Williamsons with great respect, while the Hobsons, Jacksons, and Wilsons, fared in his hostelry as best they could. A "dainty deuice," truly!

Some christian names have been oddly connected with other words to form surnames, as *Goodhugh*, *Fulljames*, *Matthewman*, *Marklove*, *Jackaman* (!) *Cobbledick* (on J. C. N.'s theory, 'Dick the Cobbler'!) The name of John has at least SIX of these strange appendages, viz.: LittleJOHN, UpJOHN, PretteJOHN, AppleJOHN, ProperJOHN, and BrownJOHN!!! I cannot consider these last corruptions of other names, as the prefixes seem to be all *significant* and *descriptive*. Indeed so common is the forename JOHN, that before the invention of regular surnames, these soubriquets might have been given with great propriety, for the sake of distinction, to six inhabitants of any little village. Thus the *least* John of the six would be the Little John of the locality; John at the *upper* end of the street might be called Up-John; Pretty John was, I suppose, the *beau* of the village, while the goodman who had the best *orchard* was styled Apple-John.* Proper-John, no doubt, answered to his name, and was a model of *propriety* to all the youth of the parish; while, to complete the list, Brown-John possessed a complexion which might not have disgraced a mulatto. I know the Oldenbucks will reject all this as inconsiderate trifling, but whether it has less *probability* than some of the graver conjectures and more learned hypotheses of F.S.A.'s, I leave to the impartiality of my reader to determine.

* I may remark, in support of this etymology, that I once knew a person who was famous for growing an excellent kind of potatoes, on which account he was often spoken of by his rustic neighbours as *Tater-John!*

ESSAY VIII.

SURNAMES FROM NATURAL OBJECTS, FROM SIGNS OF HOUSES, &c. &c.

One would suppose that when almost every locality, whether town, village, manor, park, hill, dale, bridge, pond, wood or green; every dignity, office, profession and trade; every peculiarity of body and of mind, and every imaginable modification of every Christian name had contributed their full quota to the nomenclature of Englishmen, the few millions of families inhabiting our island would have all been supplied with surnames; but no: the thirst for variety (that charming word!) was not yet satisfied; and consequently recourse was had to

> "——— objects celestial and things terrene,
> The wondrous glories of the firmament,
> And all the creatures of this nether scene,
> Beasts, fishes, birds, and trees, in beauteous green
> Yclad, and even stones,———."

Accordingly we find the names of the heavenly bodies, beasts, birds, fishes, insects, plants, fruits, flowers, metals, &c. &c. very frequently borne as surnames. I shall first attempt a classification of these names under their various *genera*, and then offer some remarks on their probable origin.

First, from the HEAVENLY BODIES; *Sun, Moone, Star.*

From FOUR-FOOTED CREATURES; *Lyon, Bear, Leppard, Buck,* with its compounds, *Oldbuck, Roebuck, Clutterbuck,** &c. *Stagg, Hind, Hart, Roe, Ram, Lamb,*† *Hound, Talbot,* (a mastiff—still familiar as a term of heraldry); *Fox, Hare, Coney, Rabbit, Catt, Doe, Hogge, Boar, Wildbore, Wetherhogg, Pigg, Badger, Otter, Beaver, Squirrel, Bull, Bullocke, Steere, Moyle* (a mule, or rather any labouring beast), and *Colt. Capel* is an old word, signifying a strong horse; hence Chaucer,

"And gave him *caples* to his carte."

In an antient "ballade of Robyn Hood" we have,

"Yonder I heare Syr Guy's horne blow,
It blows so wel in tyde;
And yonder he comes, that wight yeoman,
Clad in hys CAPUL-HIDE."

I have not found the name of *Mouse* in modern times, but "le Mouse" occurs in the Nonarum Rolls. One of the most widely-spread names of this kind is *Wolfe,* which occurs in the classical, as well as in many modern, languages, as Λυκος (Gr.) LUPUS and LUPA, (Lat.) LOUPE, (Fr.) WULF, (Sax.), and GUELPH, (Germ.)—the surname of the existing royal family of Great Britain. The old baronial name of LOVEL is from the same source. The original name of that family was Perceval, from a place in

* The word *cluttered,* in the northern counties, signifies *stirred;* hence CLUTTERBUCK may possibly mean, a "stirred buck,"—a buck just roused or stirred from his lair. This name probably had its origin in some circumstance connected with the chase.

† Charles Lamb, in reply to the question, "Who first imposed thee, gentle name?" comes to the conclusion that his ancestors were shepherds!

Normandy; until Asceline, its chief, who flourished in the early part of the twelfth century, acquired, from his violent temper, the soubriquet of LUPUS. His son William, earl of Yvery, was nicknamed LUPELLUS, the little wolf, which designation was softened into LUPEL, and thence to *Luvel*, and became the surname of most of his descendants.* Fosbroke mentions the name of Archembaldus Pejor-Lupo, Archibald *Worse-than-a-Wolf!* but does not give his authority.†

One of the most singular surnames I ever met with is that of a gentleman of fortune in Kent. His family name was *Bear*, and as he had maternal relatives of the name of *Savage*, his parents gave him the Christian (or rather un-Christian) name of Savage! Hence he enjoyed the pleasing and amiable name of *Savage Bear, Esquire!!*

Long prior to the invention of surnames, our Saxon ancestors were accustomed to bear the names of animals; the names Horsa and Hengist, both signifying a horse. "The antient pagan Germans too, ESPECIALLY THE NOBLEMEN, did sometimes take the names of Beasts, as one would be called a Lion, another a Bear, another a Wolf, &c."‡ And, in ages much more remote, the Greeks and Romans. Among the latter we find multitudes of such names as Leo, Ursinicus, Catullus, Leporius, Aper, &c. &c. The Persian name Cyrus, means a dog, and is possibly the etymon of our English word CUR! Speaking of such names the witty author of Heraldic Anomalies§ says:

"We should think Ass and Sow not very elegant names, and yet there were persons of respectability at

* Burke's Extinct Peerage.
† Encycl. of Antiq. (p. 429.)
‡ Verstegan Restit. (p. 133.)
§ Vol. I. (p. 179.)

Rome who bore them—no less indeed than the Cornelian and Tremellian families. The former got the name of Asinia by one of the family having agreed to buy a farm, who, being asked to give pledges for the fulfilment of his engagement, caused *an ass*, loaded with money, to be led to the Forum as the only pledge that could be wanted. The Tremellian family got the name of Scropha or Sow, in a manner by no means reputable; but by which we should call, in these days, a *hoax*, and a very unfair one into the bargain. A sow having strayed from a neighbour's yard into that of one of the Tremellii, the servants of the latter killed her. The master caused the carcase to be placed under some bed-clothes, where his lady was accustomed to lie, and, when his neighbour came to search for the pig, undertook to swear that there was no *old sow* in his premises, except the one that was lying among those bed-clothes, which his neighbour very naturally concluded to be *the lady herself*. How the latter liked the compliment the history does not relate, but from that time the Tremellii acquired the cognomen of Scropha or Sow, which became afterwards so fixed a family name as to make *sows* of all their progeny, both male and female."

Not content with having appropriated the names of the living animals, our ancestors sometimes, oddly enough, adopted the terms applied to their flesh, &c. when dead, as *Mutton*, *Veal*, *Tripe*, *Pigfat*, *Hogsflesh** and *Bacon*. These two last were borne by two innkeepers at Worthing, when a very small town; whereupon a rustic poetaster penned the ensuing most elegant stanza:

* The mistress of a ladies' seminary in a fashionable watering place, who used to advertise her establishment under this name, now spells it *Ho'flesh!*

"Worthing is a pretty place,
And if I'm not mistaken,
If you can't get any butcher's meat,
There's *Hogsflesh* and *Bacon!*"

From BIRDS we borrow the following names: *Fowle, Egles, Hawke, Kite, Howlett, Swan, Gander, Goose, Gosling,* Wildgoose, Drake, Duck, Gull, Coote, Heron,* and *Herne;* also *Henshaw,* that is heronshaw, a young heron, *Crane, Cock, Peacock, Partridge, Cuckoo, Dove, Culfre* or *Culver,* (Sax. a pigeon); *Bisset,* (a dove); *Sparrow, Jay, Blackbird, Bunting; Finch, Goldfinch, Bulfinch, Chaffinch, Larke, Nightingale, Wren, Raven, Rooke, Crowe, Starling, Woodcock* and *Popinjay,* the old English for Parrot.†

"As good names these," says Camden, "as [the Roman names] Corvinus, Gallus, Picus, Falco, and Livia, that is stockedoue."

So numerous are the names derived from this source that in a small congregation of dissenters at Feversham, co. Kent, there were lately no less than *twenty-three* names taken from the "feathered nation," their pastor, a very worthy man, bearing the singularly appropriate name of *Rooke!*

Many names of this sort have been the subjects of excellent puns, among which may be noticed the following. "When worthy master HERN, famous for his living, preaching, and writing, lay on his death-bed, (rich only in

* Pegge's derivation of this name, from Josceline, is not at all probable.

† I have not met with *Owl* as a surname, but '*Towle* looks like an abbreviation of "At the Owle," the meaning of which will be discovered a few pages forward.

goodness and children), his wife made womanish lamentations what would become of her little ones? Peace, sweetheart," said he, "that God who feedeth the ravens will not starve the *herns;* a speech (says Fuller) censured as light by some, observed by others as prophetical; as indeed it came to pass they were all well disposed of." Akin to this were the words of John Huss at his burning; who, fixing his eyes stedfastly upon the spectators, said with a solemn voice—"They burn a *goose,* but in a hundred years a *swan* will arise out of the ashes:" words which many have regarded as a prediction of the reformer of Eisleben; the name of Huss signifying a GOOSE, and that of Luther a SWAN.

The following is of a more humorous cast. As the late Mr. Jay, an eminent dissenting minister of Bath, and his friend Mr. Fuller were taking an evening walk, an owl crossed their path, on which Mr. Fuller said to his companion, "Pray sir, is that bird a *jay?*" "No, sir," was the prompt reply, "it's not like a jay, it's *fuller* in the eyes, and *fuller* in the head, and *fuller all over!*

It is related in Collins's Peerage that a certain unmarried lady once dreamed of finding a nest containing seven young *finches,* which in course of time was realized by her becoming the wife of a *Mr. Finch,* and mother of *seven* children. From one of these nestlings is descended the present earl of Winchelsea, who still retains the surname of Finch.

Pye, which might be supposed to be derived from the bird so called, is a corruption from the Welsh, Ap-Hugh —U in that language having sometimes the sound of Y. This name is exceedingly common in some districts of

England and Wales, a fact that can excite no surprise in any one who "marks the conclusion" of the following epitaph from Dewchurch, near Kevenol:

"1550.
Here lyeth the
Body of John Pye
of Minde,
a travayler in far countryes,
his life ended; he left be-
hind him Walter, his son,
heire of Minde; a hundred and
six yeares he was truly, *and had*
sons and daughters two and forty!"

Corbet, the name of more than one eminent family in the North of England, is *raven*. In Scotland, the name, both of the bird and the family, is varied to *Corby*. The reader who is versed in the old Scottish ballads will call to mind that of the *Twa Corbies*, which for tragic effect and wildness of diction is unequalled, and which for the benefit of those to whom it may be new, I shall here take the liberty to introduce.

"The Twa Corbies.

As I gaed doun by yon house-een',
Twa *Corbies* there were sitting their lane;
The ane unto the tother did say:—
'O where shall we gae dine to-day?'

O doun beside yon new-faun birk,
There, there lies a new-slain knicht;
Nae livin' kens that he lies there,
But his horse, his hounds, and his ladye fair.

His horse is to the hunting gane,
His hounds to bring the wild deer hame;
His lady's taen another mate;
Sae we may mak our dinner sweet!

O we'll sit on his bonny breist-bane,
And we'll pyke out his bonny grey een;
Wi' ae lock o' his gowden hair,
We'll theek our nest when it blaws bare!

Many a ane for him maks mane,
But none sall ken where he is gane;
Ower his banes when they are bare,
The wind sall blaw for evermair!"

Next from FISHES, come *Whale, Dolphin, Seal, Grayling. Herring, Sturgeon, Lamprell, Pike, Pikerell, Cockle, Crabbe, Pilchard, Eeles, Sole, Spratt, Gurnard, Salmon, Trout, Plaice, Breme, Roach, Burt, Chubb, Whiting, Tench, Mullet,* and *Base.* The Romans had their cognates, Murena, Phocas, Orata, &c.*

From INSECTS, *Bee, Wasp, Fly, Bug, Cricket.* I do not give these on my own authority, for I never met with either of them.

Then from the VEGETABLE WORLD (besides the names of trees to which I have already referred as being borrowed from some specific tree of each species, and therefore classed among local names) we have *Myrtle, Box, Holly, Ivy,*† *Crabtree,* and *Gourd,* (Reed and Rush are already accounted for), *Hay, Straw, Cabbage, Sage* and *Spinage,*

* Camd.

† Holly and Ivy were *personated* in the antient Christmas games. In Hone's Mysteries is the following quotation from a MS. carol, called "A Song on the Holly and the Ivy." (p. 94.)

"Nay, my nay, hyt shal not be I wys,
Let HOLY hafe the maystry; as the maner ys:
HOLY stand in the halle, fayre to behold
IVY stond without the dore she is ful sore acold.
Nay, my nay, &c.
HOLY and *hys mery men,* they dawnsyn and they syng,
IVY and *hur maydyns,* they wepyn and they wryng.
Nay, my nay, &c.

Leek and *Onion*, *Pepper* and *Peppercorn*,* *Bean*, *Peascod* and *Vetch*. Also *Pease*, (lately among the *M. P's*); *Budd*, *Flowers*, and *Leeves*, *Rose* and *Lily*, *Lis* and *Blanchflower*, *Daisy* and *Primrose*, *Weed* and *Nettle*, *Peach* and *Pear*, *Nutt* and *Filbert*, *Grapes*, *Cherry* and *Sweetapple*, *Orange*, *Lemon*, and *Peel*. I place this last name in juxta-position with the two preceding, for juxta-position's sake, for it is probably a local name. Some others are possibly corruptions of other words; thus Filbert and Pear, very probably mean the two French Christian names, Philibert and Pierre, while Lemon is a corrupt spelling of the old English word LEMAN, a paramour or mistress, which often occurs in Chaucer and elsewhere.

Roser is an obsolete word for ROSE-BUSH or tree, as the following *true* tale from our unsophisticated friend, Sir John Maundevile, will show:

"And betwene the cytee [of Bethlehem] and the chirche is the felde floridus; that is to seyne, the feld florisched: for als moche as a fayre mayden was blamed with wrong and sclaundred, ... for whiche cause sche was demed to the dethe, and to be brent in that place, to the whiche sche was ladd, (led.) And as the fyre began to brenne aboute hire, sche made hire preyeres to our Lord, that als wissely as sche was not gylty of that synne, that he wold help hire, and make it to be knowen to alle men of his mercyfulle grace. And whan sche hadde thus seyd, sche entred in to the fuyer; and anon was the fuyr quenched and oute; and the brondes that weren brennynge becomen

* There were formerly living in two adjacent houses in Deptford Broadway, Mr. *Pluckrose*, a perfumer; and Mr. *Peppercorn*, a grocer. Fact!

REDE ROSERES; and the brondes that weren not kyndled, becomen WHITE ROSERES fulle of roses. And theise weren the first ROSERES and roses, bothe white and rede, that evere ony man saugh."

Surnames adopted from the mineral kingdom are less numerous: hence, however, we borrow *Clay, Coale, Irons,* and *Copper, Gold, Silver,* Brass, Jewell, Diamond* or *Dymond, Sands, Whetstone, Hone, Stone, Flint* and *Steele.* Some of these may be local names, particularly Clay, Flint, and Stone, there being places so called, situated respectively in Norfolk, Flintshire, and Kent. *Coke* is not derived from charred coal; it is, as we have seen in a former Essay, the old orthography of COOK.

> "A COKE they hadden with hem for the nones
> To boile the chickenes and the marie-bones,
> He coud-e roste and sethe and boile and frie,
> Maken mortrew-es and wel bake a pie."†

Now while it is quite likely that a few of these names, from natural objects, may have originated from some fancied resemblance of their first bearers to the animals, &c. whose names were assigned them as soubriquets; we must, as I apprehend, look elsewhere for the application of the great majority of them. Those names to which the prefix LE occurs in old records, may be with safety assigned to the characteristic class. The first Adam le Fox was doubtless a clever, knowing fellow, a little too sharp for his neighbours in matters of *meum* and *tuum.* Roger le Buck and Nicholas le Hart, I should say, were capital fellows for a foot-race; while Richard le Stere was, with

* Ricardus d' Argent. *Ant. Rec.* † Chaucer. Prologue.

equal probability, a hard-working peasant. *Hare* would answer nicely for a person of small prowess, *Pike* for a gourmand, and *Jay* for a chatterbox; but let us be serious. The names of celestial objects, very many names of animals, and all names of vegetables, would be inapplicable in this manner. I conclude, therefore, that they are borrowed from the SIGNS of INNS and SHOPS, kept by the parties who first used them.* This opinion was *original* with me long before I had read Camden's "Remaines": a passage in that work fully confirms it:

"Many names that seeme vnfitting for men, as of brutish beasts, &c. come FROM THE VERY SIGNES of the houses, where they inhabited; for I have heard of them, which sayd they spake of knowledge, that some in late time dwelling at the signe of the Dolphin, Bull, White-horse, Racket, Peacocke, &c. were commonly called *Thomas at the Dolphin, Will at the Bull, George at the Whitehorse, Robin at the Racket,* which names, as many other of like sort, with omitting AT, became afterward hereditary to their children."†

Hence the names of persons derived from natural objects may be most satisfactorily accounted for—even those borrowed from the heavenly bodies; for the *Sun*, [Half-]

* These signs were not the least curious feature of "London in the Olden Tyme." Every quadruped, from the *lyon* and *hee-cow (!)* down to *hedgehogge* —every bird from the *eagle* to the *wrenne*—every *fysshe* of the sea—almost every known object in nature, in fact, was employed by the good citizens to excite the attention of passers-by to the various wares exhibited for sale. The numbering of shops and houses is of comparatively recent introduction, although it is as superior in point of convenience to the antient practice, as are the fine modern buildings to the round-about timber edifices which existed before the great conflagration of "sixty-six."

† Remains. (p. 102.)

Moon, and *Star*, were formerly among the most familiar signs of shops, as they still continue to be of inns and public-houses.

Having accounted for this extensive class of surnames, it becomes, at once, an easy matter to dispose of another, and not less remarkable class. I mean those names that are derived from commodities, articles of dress, implements, and others of a similar kind, which bye and bye I shall mention. They are, I think, almost without exception, borrowed from signs of houses and inns. Formerly every tradesman had his sign, and generally it bore some reference to the commodities disposed of under it. This practice is still retained in many towns on the continent. The city of Malines is said to abound with them, and they add much to the picturesque effect of the streets of that remarkable place.* Even in England some faint traces of the practice remain, particularly in the more antique portions of old cities and country towns, where we occasionally find the Golden Fleece at the Drapers', the Pestle and Mortar at the Apothecaries', the Sugar-loaf at the Grocers', &c. The Red Hat, the Golden Boot, the Silver Canister, and others of that kind, which are every where pretty numerous, are modern imitations of the antient fashion, and are certainly preferable to such names as 'Commerce House,' 'Waterloo Establishment,' and 'Albion House,' by which enterprising traders dignify their shops. A collection of antient signs in any given place would be a curious and not uninteresting document. A great number of them might be collected from the imprints of old books, among which I recollect, at this

* Vide Gent. Mag. March, 1842.

moment, the Rose and Crown; the Angel, the Hedgehog, the Bible (on London Bridge), the Star and Garter, &c.; being the signs chosen by printers of former times.

I am inclined to think that the names adopted from signs generally originated in towns, as such names as Field, Wood, and Grove, did in the country; a consideration not devoid of some interest, as from it a conclusion may be arrived at as to whether one's ancestors were citizens or 'rusticall men.'

In Pasquin's "Night-Cap," printed in 1612, we have the following lines, which show that at that comparatively recent date, individuals were recognizable by the signs of their shops:

> "First there is maister Peter at the *Bell*,
> A linnen-draper and a wealthy man;
> Then maister Thomas that doth stockings sell;
> And George the Grocer at the *Frying-pan*;
> And maister Timothie the wollen-draper;
> And maister Salamon the leather-scraper;
> And maister Franke ye goldsmith at the *Rose*;
> And Maister Phillip with the fiery nose.
>
> And maister Miles the mercer* at the *Harrow*;
> And maister Nicke the silkman at the *Plow*;
> And maister Giles the salter at the *Sparrow*;
> And maister Dicke the vintner at the *Cow*;
> And Harry Haberdasher at the *Horne*;
> And Oliver the dyer at the *Thorne*;
> And Bernard, barber-surgeon at the *Fiddle*;
> And Moses, merchant-tailor at the *Needle!*"†

The following names are obviously derived from this source: *Bullhead, Silverspoon, Image, Rainbow, Bell,*

* The word Mercer is now exclusively applied to dealers in silk; but its original and true meaning is a general dealer.

† Vide Gent. Mag. Jan. 1842.

Tankard, Pitcher, Scales, Crosskeys, Fyrebrand, Horne, Potts, Hammer, Funnell, Baskett, Board, Bowkes, Hamper, Tabor (or drum), *Cowlstick, Cade, Cottrell, Cresset.* Most of these are quite intelligible, but some others require explanation, as, for instance, COWLSTICK (often refined to *Costic*). A cowl is a vessel with two ears, generally made of wood, and for the sake of convenience carried between two, on a staff, thence called a cowl-staff or *cowl-stick.* CADE is an old word for a barrel or cask, and hence a very appropriate sign for an alehouse or tavern.* COTTRELL, according to Grose, is a provincial word for a trammel for hanging an iron pot over the fire. A CRESSET was a machine used during the middle ages by soldiers; it was a kind of portable beacon made of wires in the shape of an inverted cone, and filled with match or rope steeped in pitch, tallow, resin, and other inflammable matters. One man carried it upon a pole, another at-

* As I intend "to put into my book as much as my book will hold," I take an opportunity here, on mentioning the name of *Cade*, to correct an error into which most of our historians have fallen relative to that arch-traitor *Jack Cade*, temp. Hen. VI. They uniformly state that he was an *Irishman* by birth, but there is strong presumptive evidence that to Sussex belongs the unenviable claim of his nativity. Speed states that "he had bin seruant to Sir Thomas Dagre." Now this Sir Thomas Dagre or Dacre was a Sussex knight of great eminence, who had seats at Hurstmonceux and Heathfield, in this county. Cade has for several centuries been a common name about Mayfield and Heathfield, as is proved as well by numerous entries in the parish registers as by lands and localities designated from the family. After the defeat and dispersion of his rabble-rout of retainers, Cade is stated to have fled into the woods of Sussex, where a price being set upon his head, he was slain by Sir Alexander Iden, sheriff of Kent. Nothing seems more probable than that he should have sought shelter from the vindictive fury of his enemies among the woods of his native county, with whose secret retreats he was doubtless well acquainted, and where he would have been likely to meet with friends. The daring recklessness of this villain's character is illustrated by the tradition of the district, that he was engaged in the rustic game of bowls in the garden of a little alehouse at Heathfield when the well-aimed arrow of the Kentish sheriff inflicted the fatal wound.

tending with a bag to supply materials and a light. I have made the annexed sketch of a cresset from a descrip-

tion in Fosbroke's Encyclopædia: I cannot answer for its being very correct. A "cresset with burning fire" was formerly a badge of the Admiralty.

These two last names, viz. Cottrell and Cresset, are found among the aristocracy of England; and I hope that

if my humble lucubrations should meet the eye of any bearing either of those names, they will pardon my insinuation that they are descended from tradesmen—vulgar persons who had great flaring signs over their doors—when they call to remembrance that *all* families of gentle blood must at some time or other have been amongst the plebeian ranks of society, till some adventitious circumstance raised them to eminence and wealth. A large number of our peerage families are proud to record their descent from Lord Mayors of London, who must necessarily have been tradesmen; and it is probable that many of our great houses of Norman origin, on tracing their pedigrees beyond the Conquest (were such a thing possible), would find themselves sprung from the poor and servile peasantry of Normandy. Of one fact we are certain, that the most illustrious families in existence can only trace their genealogy to "a certain gardener who was turned out of his service for stealing his master's fruit!"

When Adam delved and Eve span,
Where was then the gentleman?

Several names are borrowed from habiliments of the person, as *Cope, Mantell, Coates, Cloake, Meddlicote* (that is, a coat of many or mixed colours, a favorite fashion of our ancestors), *Bootes, Frocke, Hose, Hat, Capp, Peticote, Gaicote,** and *Mapes.*† I have no doubt that all these have been used as signs of houses, perhaps of inns; certain it is that there was a tavern in Southwark called the *Tabard* (a herald's coat), and a very famous tavern it

* Camden. † Vide Archæologist, vol. i. p. 102.

was too, which will never be forgotten so long as the name of Chaucer survives.

> " Befelle, that in that seson on a day
> In Southwerk at the TABARD as I lay,
> Redy to wenden on my pilgrimage
> To Canterbury with devout corage,
> At night was come into that hostelrie,
> Wel nine and twenty in a compagnie,
> Of sondry folk, by aventure yfalle
> In felawship, and pilgrimes were they alle,
> That toward Canterbury wolden ride." *

Some of the names borrowed from habiliments, however, were given as soubriquets to those who first set the fashion of wearing them. Of this we have an instance in *Curtmantle*, the surname of our Henry the Second, given him from his having introduced the practice of wearing shorter mantles than had been previously used. This rule was reversed in later days by one Spencer, who gave his surname to the article bearing that name; which is said to have originated in the following manner: Spencer was a celebrated exquisite, who stood so high in such matters that he had only to don any particular fashion of garment, to be imitated by all the dandies of the day; and so confident was he of his influence in this respect, that he once declared that he verily believed that if he wore a *coat without tails*, others would do the same. He assumed this ridiculous vestment—so did they!

Hugh *Capet*, the founder of the royal line of France in the tenth century, is said to have acquired that surname from a freak of which, in his boyhood, he was very fond; that of snatching off the *caps* of his playfellows.

* Chauc. Cant. Tales, Prologue.

The names derived from parts of ARMOUR, as *Helme, Shield, Greaves, Swords, Buckler, Gauntlett, Gunn, Muskett, Shotbolt,* and *Broadspear,* were also, in all probability, signs of inns kept by those who first bore them. Some similar names, however, originated from fashions in warlike implements, and were given to the persons who first used them. *Strongbow,* the cognomen of the famous Earl of Pembroke, and *Fortescue,* that is, strong-shield, are of this kind. *Longespee,* the cognomen of William first Earl of Salisbury, and son of Fair Rosamond, was given him from his using a LONGER SWORD than usual; and William, son of Robert de Belesme, earl of Shrewsbury, gained the name of *Talvas* from the kind of SHIELD so called.*

This hypothesis respecting signs enables us to account for such surnames as *Angel, Saint, Apostles, Martyr,* which could never have been applied with propriety to any living person. The ANGEL is still a common sign for inns, as SAINTS doubtless were before the Reformation. St. George and the Dragon still retain their *post* at the doors of some country alehouses. MARTYRS, too, I dare say, were plentiful enough in those days; but the only vestige of them remaining, so far as I am aware, is St. Catherine on her Wheel, now usually termed the Catton Wheel. Indeed, I am not quite sure whether it has not been corrupted still further to the Cat and Wheel! There are some other names of a religious cast, as *Hallowbread, Pix,* a little chest for the reception of the consecrated host, and *Porteus,* a breviary or priest's office-book, to which I am disposed to assign the same origin.

Several surnames are from the names of articles of sale

* Camd.

or diet; as *Figg* (a most excellent name for a grocer), *Butter, Drybutter, Salt, Sugar, Ale, Suet, Honey, Pepper, Mustard, Pickles, Perry, Syder,* and *Beer*. This last (and perhaps some of the others) may be of the local class, there being two towns of that name in Devonshire, namely, Beer-Ferris and Beer-Alston. Salt, Sugar, and Suet could never have been signs of houses, whence I conclude they were first given as soubriquets to persons who dealt in such articles.

I have already extended the present Essay beyond due bounds, but I must not close it without adverting to one other batch of names: I mean those derived from the heathen divinities and celebrated personages of antiquity, whose names and portraitures doubtless, in former days, adorned some of the signs of which I have already said so much. Of the former we have *Venus, Mars,* and *Bacchus,* and of the latter *Homer, Tully, Vergil, Cæsar,* and *Horace.** It is sometimes amusing to find these immortal

* Had we not evidence that such names as *Colbrand, Guy,* and *Bevis* were antiently used as Christian names, I should not hesitate to add them to this catalogue of celebrated persons, derived respectively from the Danish Giant, from the famous Earl of Warwick, and from the no less doughty, if less illustrious, Bevis of Southampton:

> "Which geaunt was myghtie and strong,
> And full fourty feet was long;
> A foote he had betwene each brow,
> His head was bristled like a sowe!"
>
> *Romance of Syr Bevis.*

It is remarkable that there is still living at Southampton, the scene of his giantship's adventures, *a family of Bevis*, who from time immemorial have been located there; but whether they are lineally or collaterally descended from this giant (whose effigies still adorn the Bar-gate of the town) I leave to the proper authorities at the Herald's College to determine.

The name of *Littlejohn* I formerly imagined to be borrowed from the far-famed compeer of that most redoubtable deer-killing, bishop-robbing, and sheriff-tor-

names in the oddest possible associations: "Many years have not elapsed," says Mr. Brady, in his humorous dissertation, "since HORACE drew beer at Wapping; HOMER was particularly famous for curing sore legs; and CÆSAR was unambitious of any other post than that of shopman to a mercer!"

The failure of a person named Homer once gave rise to the following admirable puns:

> "That HOMER should a bankrupt be
> Is not so very ODD-D'YE-SEE,
> If it be true, as I'm instructed,
> So ILL-HE-HAD his books conducted!"*

menting wight, Master Robyn Hood of Nottinghamshire. That the name of a person so popular, so courageous, and so worthy, as in some respects this antient forester had been, should be adopted as a surname by some lover of "hunting craft and the green-wood glade," in the next generation, would have been a circumstance by no means extraordinary.

* Heraldic Anomalies.

ESSAY IX.

SURNAMES FROM THE SOCIAL RELATIONS, PERIODS OF AGE, TIME, ETC.

THERE are several English surnames derived from consanguinity, alliance, and other social relations, originating, as Camden thinks, from there having been two or more persons bearing the same Christian name in the same neighbourhood; as *Brothers, Cousins, Husband, Young-husband, Batchelor, Kinsman, Lover, Paramour,* Guest, Stranger, Master, Friend,* and *Foe.* Here, for want of a more appropriate place, I may add *Mann, Boys, Goodboys, Littleboys, Littlechild, Stripling, Baby* (!)† *Child, Children* (!), and *Gasson,* which looks like a corruption of GARÇON (Fr.), a boy. That some of these are corruptions, or words having a double meaning, is, I think, unquestionable. Mann, for instance, as I have already surmised, may be from the island in the Irish Sea; Batchelor is applicable otherwise as well as to an unmarried man; and Boys, with its compounds, is, in all likelihood, a mis-spelling and false pronunciation of the French BOIS, a wood. The French surname Du Bois,

* *Leifchild* seems to be the old English form of love-child, i. e. an illegitimate.

† I have two authorities for this name.

naturalized amongst us, is equivalent to our Attwood, &c. To such names of distinction also belong *Rich* and *Poore*, *Bond*, *Freeman*, *Freeborn*, and *Burrell*. BOREL is used in Chaucer in the sense of LAY, as Borel-clerks, lay clerks, Borel-folk, laymen.

The surname of *Wardedu* or *Wardeux*, formerly borne by the feudal lords of Bodiham, co. Sussex, is of very singular origin. Henry, a younger son of the house of Monceux, was a WARD OF the Earl of Ou in the thirteenth century, from which circumstance he left his antient patronymic, and assumed that of WARD DE OU. This Henry Wardeou or Wardedu was knight of the shire for Sussex in 1302.*

Closely connected with the foregoing are the names derived from periods of age, as *Young*, *Younger*, *Youngman*, *Eld*, and *Senior*. *Rathbone* is from the Saxon, and signifies "an early gift." This class of surnames presents some very strange anomalies: for instance, how could Batchelor be with propriety assigned to a *married man* and his descendants? Again, though *Eld* or *Senior* might serve very well to designate a man in the decline of life, how could it apply to his children? "Yong," says Verstegan, was derived from one's "fewness of yeares;" if so, every day of his life must have made the absurdity of the name increasingly apparent. How oddly do such announcements as the following sound: "Died, on Tuesday week, Mr. *Young*, of Newton, aged 97." "The late Mr. *Cousins*, the opulent banker, of Kingston, is said to have left the whole of his property to public charities, as he

* See a very interesting little work called "Gleanings respecting Battel and its Abbey," lately published, p. 63.

could not ascertain that he had a single relative in the world!" "Died, on the 10th inst., Miss Bridget *Younghusband, spinster*, aged 84." "Birth: Mrs. A. *Batchelor*, of a son, being her *thirteenth*," &c. &c.

From periods of TIME we have several names, as *Spring, Summer, Winter*. The writer of the article "NAMES," in the Penny Cyclopædia, thinks these three corruptions of other words, because the remaining season, Autumn, does not stand as a surname. Thus, he says, Spring signifies a hill; Summer, *somner*;* and Winter, *vintner*. This is far-fetched; besides, I would not undertake to say that we have no Autumns in our family nomenclature. It is a word easily corrupted to the more natural spelling of Otham or Hotham, although I am quite aware that some families bearing that designation take it from names of places where they were originally settled. Moreover, it is no greater matter of surprise that names should be borrowed from the seasons than from the months, the days of the week, and festivals of the church, like the following: *Day*, with its compounds *Goodday* and *Doubleday; Evening, Weekes; March, May; Sunday, Monday, Friday; Christmas* (and *Noel*, Fr.), *Easter, Paschall, Pentecost, Middlemiss*, that is, if I mistake not, Michaelmas; *Holiday, Midwinter*, &c. We are not singular in the possession of such names: the Romans had their Januarii, Martii, Maii, Festi, and Virgilii—the last so named from having been "borne at the rising of the Virgiliæ or seven stars, as Pontanus learnedly writeth against them which write the name Virgilius.*

Perhaps most of these originated from the period of the

* See p. 69 of this volume. † Remaines, p. 111.

birth of the persons to whom they were first assigned, or from some notable event which occurred to those persons on the particular day or month. The name *Friday*, which De Foe makes Robinson Crusoe give to his savage, is extremely natural. Perhaps they were occasionally given to foundlings: thus, in Crabbe's "Parish Register:"

> "Some hardened knaves that roved the country round,
> Had left a babe within the parish bound.
> * * * * * *
> But by what name th' unwelcome guest to call
> Was long a question, and it 'posed' them all;
> For he who lent it to a babe unknown,
> Censorious men might take it for his own.
> They look'd about; they gravely spoke to all,
> And not one *Richard* answered to the call.
> Next they enquired THE DAY when, passing by,
> Th' unlucky peasant heard the stranger's cry.
> This known, how food and raiment they might give
> Was next debated, for the rogue *would live!*
> At last, with all their words and work content,
> Back to their homes the prudent vestry went,
> And RICHARD MONDAY to the workhouse sent."

The following surnames may find a place here: *Soone*, *Later*, *Latter*, *Last*, and *Quickly*. Well may Master Camden say of such: "To find out the true originall of Surnames is full of difficulty;" and I shall not waste good time and paper by any attempt to guess at their origin. There is also another commodity of which I should regret the loss still more: to wit, the patience of the reader. I shall therefore close this short Essay by thanking him for his indulgence, and announcing a shorter.

ESSAY X.

A CABINET OF ODDITIES.

"Odd, very odd!"
*Old Play.**

THERE are a good many surnames which seem to have originated in sheer caprice, as no satisfactory reason for their assumption can be assigned. I doubt, indeed, if they were ever *assumed* at all, for they have very much the appearance of what, in these days, we are accustomed to call nicknames or *sobriquets*, and were probably given by others to the persons who were first known by them, and so identified with those persons that neither they nor their immediate posterity could well avoid them.

To this family belong the names borrowed from PARTS OF THE HUMAN FIGURE, which are somewhat numerous. There were lately living, in a very small village about ten miles from Lewes, three cottagers bearing the singular names of *Head*, *Body*, and *Shoulders!* It may not be unamusing to classify this description of names according to their proper position in the human frame, thus:

* At least I dare say so, for I am not a reader of old plays. I believe it is generally understood that authors are at full liberty to coin a motto, and to ascribe it to any imaginary source that may strike their fancy.

HEAD, with its numerous compounds, which are already accounted for.

HAIRE, and that of various colours.

CHEEKE.

TONGUE, TOOTH, and GUMBOIL!

CHIN and BEARD.

It must not be imagined that I have overlooked the *nose:* that was too prominent a feature to be forgotten. It generally occurs in composition with other words, however, and in its antient form of *nesse;* as *Thicknesse,* thick-nose; *Rednesse,* red-nose; *Longnesse,* long-nose; and *Filtnesse,* which, if I may be allowed a jocular etymology, is no other than "fœdus nasus," or, in plain English, *foul-nose!* Having thus disposed of the head, I proceed to the

SHOULDERS, and thence to the

BODY (with its compounds Goodbody, Freebody, which are mental rather than personal epithets).

SIDE, BACK, and BONES.

HEART (with Great-heart, &c.)

KIDNEY.

ARMS, HANDS, FIST, and NAILES! Next, in respect of the "nether man,"

LEGGE, with its KNEE-BONE. In our downward progress we pass the

FOOTE, with its

TOE, HEELE, and SOLE, where having reached "terra firma," we remain as much in the dark as ever as to the motives which led our whimsical ancestors to the adoption of such very absurd and extraordinary surnames.

Then there is another set of names not much less ridiculous, namely, those borrowed from COINS and denomi-

nations of MONEY; as *Farthing, Halfpenny, Penny,** *Twopenny, Thickpenny, Moneypenny, Manypenny, Pennymore, Grote, Tester,* and *Pound;* also *Pringle* and *Bodle,* two obsolete Scottish coins. The last, however, may be a corruption of Bothwell, as the name of the coin was taken from that of the person. *Angel, Noble,* and *Mark,* although names of coins, are referrible to other classes of names already discussed. Besides these we have

From THE WEATHER, &c. *Frost, Snow, Hail,* and *Hailstone, Rainy, Thunder, Tempest, Fogg, Fairday,* and *Fairweather.*

From SPORTS AND AMUSEMENTS. *Bowles, Ball, Dodd, Cards,* &c.; to which may be added *Fairplay* and *Playfair.*

From MEASURES. *Gill, Gallon, Peck, Bushell, Bagg,* and *Measures.*

From PREDILECTIONS. *Loveday, Lovechild, Lovethorpe* (ꝥoꝛp, Sax., a village), *Lovegrove,* &c.

From NUMBERS. *Six, Ten, Eighteen, Fortye;* also *Once* and *Twice!* and

From DISEASES. *Cramp, Akinside, Headache, Akinhead,* and *Ague!!!*

Is our motto realized?

* Upon a person of this name some one wrote the following distich by way of epitaph:

"Reader, if cash thou art in want of any,
Dig four feet deep, and thou shalt find a PENNY!"

ESSAY XI.

SURNAMES OF CONTEMPT; AND MORE ODDITIES IN THE NOMENCLATURE OF ENGLISHMEN.

It is really remarkable that many surnames expressive of bodily deformity or moral turpitude should have descended to the *posterity* of those who perhaps well deserved, and so could not escape them, when we reflect how easily such names might have been avoided in almost every state of society by the adoption of others; for although in our days it is considered an act of villany, or at least a suspicious affair, to change one's name unless in compliance with the will of a deceased friend, when an act of the senate or the royal sign-manual is required, the case was widely different four or five centuries ago, and we know from antient records that names *were* frequently changed at the caprice of their owners. The law seems originally to have regarded such changes, even in the most solemn acts, with great indifference. Lord Coke observes: "It is requisite that a purchaser be named by the name of baptism and his surname, and that special heed be taken to the name of baptism, for that a man cannot have two names of baptism as he may have divers surnames." And again: "It is holden in our antient books that a man

may have divers *names* at divers times, but not divers Christian names."*

Names of this kind are not very numerous in England; still we have *Bad*, *Trollope*, that is, slattern; *Stunt*, that is, fool; *Parnell* (an immodest woman), *Bastard*, *Trash*, *Hussey*, *Gubbins* (the refuse parts of a fish), and *Gallows*, which strongly implies that the founder of that family attained a very *exalted*, though at the same time unenviable, station in the world! *Kennard*, antiently Kaynard, from *caignard* (Fr.), literally signifies "you dog!" which assuredly merits a place among surnames of contempt. The same word, in a figurative sense, means a sordid fellow, a miser. *Craven*, the surname of a noble family, might be thought to belong to the same class, but this is a local name derived from a place in Yorkshire.†

Many of the names mentioned in former Essays might be placed among these surnames of contempt. Such, also, are a variety of those indicative of ill-formed limbs or features, as *Crookshanks*, *Longshanks*, *Sheepshanks*, *Greathead*, *Longnesse*, &c. The antient Romans, like ourselves, had many family names implying something defective or disgraceful. Their Plauti, Pandi, Vari, Scauri, and Tuditani would have been with us the Splay-foots, the Bandy-legs, the In-knees, the Club-foots, and the Hammer-heads! The

* "The question how far it is lawful for an individual to assume a surname at pleasure, came before Sir Joseph Jekyll when master of the rolls in 1730, who, in giving judgment upon the case (Barlow v. Bateman), remarked, 'I am satisfied the usage of passing acts of parliament for the taking upon one a surname is but modern, and that any one may take upon him what surname, and as many surnames, as he pleases, without an act of parliament.' It is right, however, to add that the above cause was reversed by the House of Lords."—*Archæologia*, vol. xviii. p. 110.

† CRAVEN, antiently a term of disgrace when the party that was overcome in a single combat yielded and cried *Cravent*, &c.—*Bailey's Dictionary*.

meanness of the origin of some of the patrician families was hinted at in their names. The illustrious *Fabii* derived their name from being excellent cultivators of beans, and the *Pisones* theirs from their having improved the growth of peas. The *Suilli* were descended and denominated from a swine-herd, the *Bubulci* from a cow-herd, and the *Porci* from a hog-butcher! Strabo would have been with us a *Mr. Squintum*, Naso (Ovid) a *Mr. Bignose*, and Publius the proprætor a *Mr. Snubnose*. Cincinnatus, and the curly poll of the Dainty Davie of Scottish song, are, strange to say, identical ideas.* The modern Italians are not more courteous than their ancestors of "old Rome" in the names they give to some families; as, for instance, Malatesta, chuckle-headed; Boccanigras, black-muzzled; Porcina, a hog; and Gozzi, chubby-chops!†

To this place may also be referred the by-names of kings, as Unready, Shorthose, Sans-terre, Crookback. William the Conqueror was so little ashamed of the illegitimacy of his birth that he sometimes commenced his charters with WILLIAM THE BASTARD, &c.!

Among other names not yet mentioned may be noticed *Whalebelly* (for which, with all the rest that follow, I have authority), the designation, probably, of some corpulent person; *Rotten*, *Bubblejaw*, and *Rottenheryng*, a name which occurs in some antient records of the town of Hull, and was most likely given, in the first instance, to a dishonest dealer in fish. Indeed, I have little doubt that these odd appellations all applied with great propriety to those who primarily bore them. How well might *Save-all* designate a miserly fellow! and *Scrape-skin* would

* Chambers' Edinburgh Journal. † Ibid.

answer the same purpose admirably. *Doubleman* would be odious if it related to duplicity of character, but humorous if it originated in some person's being double the *size* of ordinary people. *Stabback* and *Killmaster* are really horrible.

I trust that the gentle reader will do me the justice to acknowledge that I have been tolerably successful in the appropriation of surnames to the various classes to which they belong; but he really must excuse me if I do not so much as attempt either to classify or explain such names as *Overhead, Maypowder, Pennyfeather, Hayday, Brownsword, Physic, Wigg, Sustenance,* and *Nothing! Snare, Need, Stilfox, Brace, Hazard, Horsenail,* and *Music! Chataway, Sermon, Coffin, Fancy,* and *Pickfat! Quickfall, Parcel, Casement, Window,* and *Fudge!!* What can we say to compounds such as these: *Look-up, Standfast, Small-page, God-me-fetch,* and *Weed-all? Good-year, Small-shoe, Good-lad,* and *Pay-body? Small-piece, Still-well,** *Ride-out,* and *Quick-fall? Good-be-here, Full-away, God-helpe, Twelve-trees,* and *Twenty-man? Rue-gain, Pop-kiss, Tram-pleasure, Doo-little, Tread-away,*† *Gather-coal,* and *Shake-lady? Rush-out, Well-fit, Met-calf, Go-lightly, Tip-lady, Tap-lady,* and *Top-lady? Gather-good* and *Scatter-good* have some propriety, but what shall be said of *Lady-man, Go-to-bed, Hear-say, Thick-broom,* and *Leather-barrow? Strange-ways, Bird-whistle, Drink-water,*‡ *Drink-milk, Drink-dregs,* and, to conclude, that

* There is a physician of this name.

* The name of a shoemaker at Springfield, co. Essex.

‡ Camden has this among local names; but query, where is the place situated?

ne plus ultra of all that is odd, ludicrous, and polysyllabic in English surnames, GOD-LOVE-MI-LADY?

For aught I know, we have the name of *Go-and-see;* our neighbours over the water certainly have it, as one poor fellow proved to his cost. An officer under the command of the celebrated Turenne, one Count *Valavoir*, (Anglicè as above), walking round the camp after night-fall, passed the post of a sentinel, who, as in duty bound, challenged him with the usual "Who goes there?" to which the officer replied, *Va-la-voir*. The soldier doubting if he heard aright, twice repeated the question, and was twice again answered in the same manner. Enraged, at length, by what he considered an insolent response, the sentinel levelled his musket, and, *horribile dictu*, shot the bearer of this unfortunate cognomen dead upon the spot.*

I cannot conclude this Essay without introducing the following *jeux d'esprit* in the shape of puns upon a few of these humour-exciting names; for which I am principally indebted to Nares's Heraldic Anomalies.

Within the precincts of one of our cathedrals, a ball being about to take place at the house of one of the *canons*, a gentleman of the name of *Noys* was asked in company whether he was to be present at it. "To be sure," said a gentleman who heard it; "how should a *canon-ball go off without Noys?*"

A person whose name was *Gunn* complaining to a friend that his attorney in his bill had not *let him off easily*, "That is no wonder," said his friend, "as he *charged you too high!*"

Sir Thomas More enjoyed a pun and a repartee. On

* Smollett's Adv. of an Atom.

one occasion his fondness for this species of humour got the better of his persecuting zeal. A man named SILVER being brought before him, he said, "*Silver*, you must be *tried by fire*." "Yes," replied the prisoner, "but you know, my Lord, that *Quick Silver* cannot abide the fire!" Pleased with the answer, Sir Thomas suffered the man to depart.

On the failure of two bankers in Ireland, named *Gonne* and *Going*, some one wrote:

"GOING and GONNE are now both one,
For GONNE is GOING, and GOING'S GONE!"

Dr. Lettsom, a famous physician of the last century, used to sign his prescriptions "I. LETTSOM," which gave rise to the following:

"When any patients calls in haste,
I physics, bleeds, and sweats 'em;
If after that they choose to die,
Why, what cares I?—
I LETS 'EM."

A paragraph to the following effect went the round of the papers not many months since: Two attorneys in partnership in a town in the United States had the name of the firm, which was "*Catcham and Chetum*," inscribed in the usual manner upon their office door; but as the singularity and ominous juxta-position of the words led to many a coarse joke from passers-by, the men of law attempted to destroy, in part, the effect of the odd association by the insertion of the initials of their Christian names, which happened to be Isaiah and Uriah; but

this made the affair ten times worse, for the inscription then ran

"I. CATCHAM AND U. CHETUM."!!!

While on the subject of puns, I may remark that very few persons like to have their names made use of in this manner. Shenstone is said to have comforted himself with the consciousness that his name was not obnoxious to a pun. "I was once," says F. Leiber, "in company with a Mr. *Short*, in whose presence a Mr. *Shorter* was mentioned. 'Your son?' said a bystander quite gravely to Mr. Short, who, like most people, disrelished the joke on his name very much."*

Names sometimes form a singular association or contrast, as we have already seen in the case of Messrs. Peppercorn and Pluckrose, and especially in that of Messrs. Catcham and Chetum. Take, if you will, a few additional specimens. "The duke of Wellington in a visit to some place in the country was conducted by a *Mr. Coward*. In partnerships we often discover a singular junction of names; for instance, 'Bowyer and Fletcher;' 'Carpenter and Wood;' 'Spinage and Lamb;' 'Sage and Gosling;' 'Rumfit and Cutwell, Tailors,' &c. The occupation sometimes associates very peculiarly with the name; we have known apothecaries and surgeons of the names of *Littlefear*, *Butcher*, *Death*, and *Coffin*; *Pie*, a pastry-cook; *Rideout*, a stable-keeper; *Tugwell*, a dentist, [another a shoemaker]; *Light-foot*, a dancing-master: *Mix-well*, a publican; and

* Stranger in America, vol. ii.; a work which contains a very curious letter on American names.

two hosiers of the names of *Foote* and *Stocking*. We also recollect a sign with '*Write*, late *Read* and *Write*,' inscribed upon it.... Hymen, too, plays sad vagaries with names. We have seen Mr. *Good* married to Miss *Evil;* Mr. *Bean* to Miss *Pease;* Mr. *Brass* to Miss *Mould;* and Mr. *Gladdish* to Miss *Cleverly*."* "In the neighbourhood of one of the squares of London there are now living surgeons whose names are the appropriate ones of *Churchyard, Death, Blood,* and *Slaughter*."†

An ancestor of my own, by trade a carpenter, used often facetiously to remark, that he should never want *timber,* as two of his workmen bore the names of *Seven-oaks* and *Tree!*

Camden closes his curious collection of Epitaphs with the following, on "Thomas Churchyard, the poore Court-Poet."

> "Come, Alecto, and lend me thy torch
> To finde a *Church-yard* in the Church-porch,
> Pouerty and Poetry this Tombe doth inclose,
> Therefore, Gentlemen, be merry in Prose."‡

But I am forgetting the adage, "Play when your work's done," and must, for the present at least, dispense with puns and punsters, and proceed in another Essay to the consideration of several classes of English Surnames, which yet require explanation and illustration.

* Collet's Relics of Literature, p. 395.

† Daily Paper, Oct. 1838.

‡ Churchyard, however, was buried not in the churchyard, but in the choir of St. Margaret's, Westminster. (Weever's Fun. Mon. p. 271.)

ESSAY XII.

NAMES DERIVED FROM VIRTUES AND OTHER ABSTRACT IDEAS.

My business here is first to name—and then to account for—such names as *Justice, Virtue, Prudence, Wisdom, Liberty, Hope, Peace, Joy, Anguish, Comfort, Want, Grace, Laughter, Luck, Peace, Power, Warr, Ransom, Love,* &c.

It can hardly be supposed that these names were assumed by persons who thought themselves pre-eminent for the possession of those attributes; as such arrogance would certainly fail of its object, and expose the parties to contempt; although I am aware that something of a similar kind was attempted by the Puritans of the 16th and 17th centuries with regard to Christian names. "It was usual," says Hume, (quoting Brome's Travels,) "for the pretended saints of that time [A.D. 1653] to *change* their names from Henry, Edward, Anthony, William, which they regarded as heathenish and ungodly, into others more sanctified and godly. Sometimes a whole godly sentence was adopted as a name. Here are the names of a jury enclosed in Sussex about this time:

"Accepted Trevor of Norsham.
Redeemed Compton of Battle.
Faint-not Hewett of Heathfield.
Make-peace Heaton of Hare.
God-reward Smart of Fivehurst.
Stand-fast-on-high Stringer of Crowhurst.
Earth Adams of Warbleton.
Called Lower of the same.
Kill-sin Pimple of Witham.
Return Spelman of Watling.
Be-faithful Joiner of Britling.
Fly-debate Roberts of the same.
Fight-the-good-fight-of-faith White of Emer.
More-fruite Fowler of East-Hadley.
Hope-for Bending of the same.
Graceful Harding of Lewes.
Weep-not Billing of the same.
Meek Brewer of Okeham."

Had Hume taken a little pains to investigate this subject, he might have saved himself the reiteration of Brome's sneer about the "pretended saints," for we have indubitable evidence that such names were not *assumed* by the parties who bore them, but *imposed as baptismal names*. Take, in corroboration of this remark, a few instances from the parochial register of Warbleton:

1617, Bestedfast Elyarde.
—— Goodgift Gynninges.
1622, Lament Willard.
1624, Depend Outered.
1625, Faint-not Dighurst.
—— Fere-not Rhodes.
1677, Replenish French.

Hence it will be seen that fully as much of blame (if any exists) rests with the clergy who performed the rite of baptism in these cases as with the "sanctified and godly" parents who proposed such names of pretended saintship. I do not for a moment wish to extenuate the folly of the parties who gave such absurd names to their children, but I deem it an act of justice to the much-maligned, though, in many respects, misguided, and even fanatical Puritans of that period, to show that the sarcasm of the illiberal historian falls pointless to the ground, because, generally speaking at least, the bearers of such names had nothing at all to do with their imposition, and could no more get rid of them than any persons now living can dispense with the Christian names they have borne from their infancy. Indeed it seems to have become fashionable towards the close of the 16th century for parents to choose such fore-names for their offspring, and scarcely any of the parish registers of the period, that I have examined, are free from them. It seems that Sussex was particularly remarkable for the number of such names, long before the unhappy dissentions which disgraced the middle portion of the 17th century. There is another jury-list for the county in the Burrell Manuscripts, Brit. Mus. without date, but which I have good reason for assigning to about the year 1620, many years, be it remarked, prior to the era of Barebones and his "pretended saints." I know that I am digressing from the subject of surnames, yet as I am upon a kindred topic, I think I shall be pardoned for the introduction of this list also, which will probably be quite new to the majority of my readers:

"Approved Frewen of Northiam.*
Bethankful Maynard of Brightling.
Be-courteous Cole of Pevensey.
Safety-on-High Snat of Uckfield.
Search-the-Scriptures Moreton of Salehurst.
More-fruit Fowler of East-Hothly.
Free-gift Mabbs of Chiddingly.
Increase Weeks of Cuckfield.
Restore Weeks of the same.
Kill-sin Pemble of Westham.
Elected Mitchell of Heathfield.
Faint-not Hurst of the same.
Renewed Wisberry of Hailsham.
Return Milward of Hellingly.
Fly-debate Smart of Waldron.
Fly-fornication Richardson of the same.
Seek-wisdom Wood of the same.
Much-mercy Cryer of the same.
Fight-the-good-fight-of-Faith White of Ewhurst.
Small-hope Biggs of Rye.
Earth Adams of Warbleton.
Repentance Avis of Shoreham.
The-peace-of-God Knight of Burwash."†

To return to the names which stand at the head of this Essay; I am inclined to think they originated in the allegorical characters who performed in the antient mysteries or moralities; a species of dramatic pieces, which before the rise of the genuine drama served to amuse under the pretext of instructing, the play-goers of the "olden tyme." The favourite characters in these performances were Charity, Faith, Prudence, Discretion, Good-doctrine,

* A near relative of Archbishop Frewen.

† Horsfield's Lewes, vol. i. p. 202. Some of the names in this list are the same as those in the preceding.

Death, Vice, Folly and Iniquity,* who strutted upon the stage in grotesque costume, and, I fear, did far more to injure than promote good morals. The humour of these performers was of the broadest kind, and their acting irresistibly droll, but indecencies both in gesture and language neutralized their attempts to improve the moral feelings of their audiences and eventually brought them into disrepute. It is probable that the actors in these performances acquired the names of the characters they personated, which thus became surnames and descended to their posterity. We have already seen that the names King, Lord, Knight, &c. originated in a manner very similar.

The name of *Woodhouse* may be either a local name, or the designation of a favourite character in the mummings and Christmas festivities of our ancestors—if the latter, it may find a place here. The *Wodehouse*, or Wild Man of the Woods, was usually represented as a hairy monster wreathed about the temples and loins with holly and ivy, and much resembling the "wild man," so familiar in heraldic bearings. I am inclined to think he was originally derived from the Woden of the Saxon mythology. The etymon of Woden appears to be wōde, mad, wild, furious, which agrees well enough with the assumed character of the "Wodehouse straunge" of the olden days of merrie England. As the Wodehouse was distinct from the religious cast of the characters who performed in the Mysteries just referred to, he survived the Reformation and continued to be a favourite till a comparatively recent period. "When Queen Elizabeth was entertained at Kenilworth Castle, various spectacles were contrived for her amusement, and some of them produced, without any

* Strutt's Sports and Pastimes.

previous notice, to take her, as it were, by surprise. It happened about nine o'clock one evening, as her majesty returned from hunting, and was riding by torch-light, there came suddenly out of the wood by the road-side, a man habited like a savage, covered with ivy, holding in one of his hands an oaken plant torn up by the roots, who placed himself before her, and after holding some discourse with a counterfeit echo, repeated a poetical oration in her praise, which was well received. This man was Thomas Gascoyne the poet; and the verses he spoke on the occasion were of his own composition."* As a tail-piece to this Essay I shall present the "lively effigies" of a Wodehouse, "set down," as old Verstegan would say, "in picture."

* Nicholl's Progresses, vol. I. quoted in Hone's Strutt's Sports and Pastimes, p. 253.

ESSAY XIII.

FOREIGN NAMES NATURALIZED IN ENGLAND, AND THE CORRUPTIONS TO WHICH SUCH NAMES HAVE BEEN EXPOSED.

VARIOUS causes might be assigned for the great variety that exists in the nomenclature of Englishmen. Probably the principal cause is to be found in the peculiar facilities which our island has for many ages presented to the settlement of foreigners. War, royal matches with foreign princesses, the introduction of manufactures from the continent, and the patronage which our country has always extended to every kind of foreign talent—all have of course tended to the introduction of new names. It would be a vain and hopeless task to attempt anything like a classification of these names by the various countries whence we have received them. I shall therefore confine myself to the mention of a few, my principal object in the present Essay being to show that many very usual names generally supposed to be English, are merely corruptions of foreign words, and therefore unintelligible even to the families who are designated by them.

Of French names I have already incidentally said much. The proximity of Normandy, and the fact of our country having been politically subjected to that duchy at a period

when surnames were of recent introduction, sufficiently account for the vast numbers of French names which have become naturalized in England. The names already mentioned, and those included in the Roll of Battel Abbey, given in the Appendix to this volume, must suffice for French surnames. I shall therefore only allude to names *corrupted* from the French, which are sufficiently numerous. I may quote, by way of example, Molineux, La-Ville, De-Ath, and De-Ville, which have been scandalously transformed to *Mullnicks*,* *Larwill*, *Death*, and *Devil!* Scardeville has fared still worse; for while on one hand it has been Anglicised to *Skarfield*, on the other it has been *demonized* (shall I say?) to *Scaredevil!!* The Americans are, if possible, worse than ourselves in respect of this torturing of names, for F. Lieber tells us that "in Salem, Massachusetts, there is now living a family of the [vile] name of *Blumpay*, a corruption of Blancpied (Whitefoot), their original name;" but more of the Americans presently.

The readiest corruption from the French is that which turns *ville* into *field*, as Blomfield for Blondeville, Summerfield for Somerville, Baskerfield for Baskerville. "The late Lord Orford used to relate that a dispute once arose in his presence, in the way of raillery, between the late Earl Temple and the first Lord Lyttleton, on the comparative antiquity of their families. Lord Lyttleton concluded that the name of Grenville was originally *green-field;* Earl Temple insisted that it was derived from *Grand-ville*. "Well, then," said Lord Lyttleton, "if you will have it so, my family may boast of the higher anti-

* In some families the true orthography is retained.

quity, for *Little Towns* were certainly antecedent to *Great Cities;* but if you will be content with the more humble derivation, I will give up the point, for *Green Fields* were certainly more antient than either."* In some cases VILLE has been changed to WELL, as Rosseville to Roswell, Bosseville to Boswell, Freshville to Fretwell! Among other corruptions may be given Darcy from Adrecy, Mungey from Mountjoy, Knevett from Duvenet, Davers from Danvers, Troublefield from Tuberville, Frogmorton from Throckmorton, Manwaring and Mannering from Mesnilwarin, Dabridgecourt and Dabscot from Damprecourt, Barringer from Beranger, Tall-boys (!) from Taille-bois.

Many of our family names came from Germany, a circumstance not to be wondered at when we recollect that our present royal family are of German blood; others from Holland, between which country and our own the most friendly relations have for a long time subsisted. The familiar names of *Rickman, Dunk, Shurman, Boorman, Hickman, Vanneck,* and *Vansittart,* are all probably from those countries. The ludicrous names of *Higginbottom* and *Bomgarson* are corruptions of the German Ickenbaum, an oak-tree, and of another word signifying a tree-garden.†

The names of *Denis, Scrase,* and *Isted* are said to be of Danish original, while *Boffey, Cæsar, Castilian, Fussell,* and *Bassano* are derived from Italy. Names in AN denote an Irish extraction, as *Egan, Skogan, Flanagan, Doran,* &c.

If foreign names have been liable to corruptions, it must not be imagined that names originally English have escaped

* Brady's Dissertation. † Vide Gent.'s Mag., Oct. 1820.

deterioration. Such corruptions were excusable in times when few besides learned clerks could write their own names, and when the spelling of words was governed by the sound, whether truly pronounced or not; but that they should be perpetrated now, in the nineteenth century, when the schoolmaster professes to be everywhere abroad, is a sad disgrace to that personage. I know a family of farmers who are descended from a younger branch of the antient family of Alchorne of Alchorne, and who always spelt their name properly until about twenty years since, when a new schoolmaster settling in the village, informed them that their proper designation was *All-corn*, which name they are now contented to bear! What can be more barbarous than *Wilbraham* for Wilburgham, *Wilberforce* for Wilburghfoss, *Sapsford* for Sabridgeworth, *Hoad* for Howard, or *Gurr* for Gower? Alas for such "contracting, syncopating, curtelling, and mollifying" as this!

Who would think of looking for the origin of the name of *Lewknor* in Levechenora, the name of one of the hundreds of Lincolnshire?* Who but a patient antiquary could find *Duppa* in D'Uphaugh?† The Italian name Hugezun has been corrupted to *Hugh-son!* This reminds me of an anecdote in Lieber's Stranger in America, which forms so good an illustration of the manner in which names are often corrupted, that I give it as it stands:

"The plain English Christian name and surname of Benjamin Eaton, borne by a Spanish boy, was derived from his single Spanish Christian name of Benito or Benedict; and this by a very natural process, though one which would have defied the acuteness of Tooke and the

* Pegge's Curial. Miscell., p. 208. † Ibid., p. 209.

wit of Swift. When the boy was taken on board ship, the sailors, who are not apt to be fastidious in their attention to the niceties of language, hearing him called Benito (pronounced Beneeto), made the nearest approximation to the Spanish sound which the case required, and which would give an intelligible sailor's name, by saluting their new shipmate as '*Ben Eaton*,' which the boy probably supposed was the corresponding English name, and accordingly conformed to it himself when asked for his name. The next process in the etymological transformation was, that when he was sent to one of our schools, the master of course enquired his name, and being answered that it was Ben Eaton, and presuming that to be his true name abbreviated as usual in the familiar style, directed him, as grammatical propriety required, to write it at full length, *Benjamin Eaton!*"

Sometimes the spelling of names is so changed that the various branches of one family lose sight of their consanguinity. I think there is little doubt that the *Gorings*, *Gorrings*, and *Gorringes* of Sussex proceed from a common ancestor, and that he borrowed his designation from the village of Goring. Similar instances might be adduced from many other districts in the kingdom.

There are many surnames that have the appearance of nicknames, but which in reality are from names of places, as (from Camden), *Wormewood*, *Ink-pen*, *Tiptow*, *Moone*, *Maners*, *Cuckold*, *Go-dolphin*, *Hurl-stone*, *Small-back*, *Bellows*, *Filpot*, *Waddle*, &c.; from Ormond, Ingepen, Tiptoft, Mohun, Manors, Cokswold, Godolchan, Hudlestone, Smalbach, Phillipot, Wahull, &c. Also *Tash*, *Toke*, *Tabbey*, from At Ash, At Oke, At Abbey, and *Toly*, *Tabbe*, *Tows*, from St. Olye, St. Ebbe, St. Osyth. The following

are taken from places without change: *Spittle-house, Wood-head, All-wood, Gardening,* and *Killingback!*

We are not to suppose that all families bearing English names are of English extraction. "Sometimes," says the author of the Stranger in America, and the remark applies equally well to England, "Sometimes they are positively *translated;* thus I know of a Mr. Bridgebuilder, whose ancestors came from Germany under the name of Bruckenbauer. I have met with many instances of this kind. There is a family now in Pennsylvania whose original name was Klein; at present they have branched out into three chief ramifications, called Klein, Small, and Little; and if they continue to have many 'little ones,' they may, for aught I know, branch out into Short, Less, and Lesser, down to the most Lilliputian names. . . . . A German called *Feuerstein* (fire-stone, the German for flint,) settled in the west when French population prevailed in that quarter. His name, therefore, was changed into *Pierre à Fusil;* but in the course of time the Anglo-American race became the prevalent one, and Pierre à Fusil was again changed into *Peter Gun!*" So much for corruptions.

ESSAY XIV.

CHANGED SURNAMES.

I HAVE already hinted at the changes which frequently took place in the nomenclature of English families from the substitution of one name for another; but I consider those changes sufficiently interesting to form the subject of a short separate Essay.

The practice of altering one's name upon the occurrence of any remarkable event in one's personal history, seems to have been known in times of very remote antiquity. The substitution of Abraham for Abram, Sarah for Sarai, Israel for Jacob, Paul for Saul, &c., are matters of sacred history; but the custom prevailed in other nations as well as among the Jews. Codomarus, on coming to the kingdom of Persia, took the princely name of Darius.* Romulus, after his deification, was called Quirinus. Some persons adopted into noble families substituted the name of the latter for their own original appellations. The practice of changing names in compliance with testamentary injunctions is also of antient date; thus Augustus, who was at first called Thureon, took the name of Octavian. Others received a new name when they were made free of

* Camden.

certain cities, as Demetrius Mega, who on becoming a free citizen of Rome was designated Publius Cornelius.* Slaves, who prior to manumission had only one name, received, on becoming free, the addition of their master's. Among the primitive Christians it was customary to change the names of persons who left Paganism to embrace the true faith. The popes, as all know, change their names on coming to "the holy apostolical see" of Rome; a practice said to have originated with Sergius the Second, because his previous name was *Hogs-mouth!* One pope, Marcellus, refused to change his name, saying, "Marcellus I was, and Marcellus I will be; I will neither change name nor manners."†

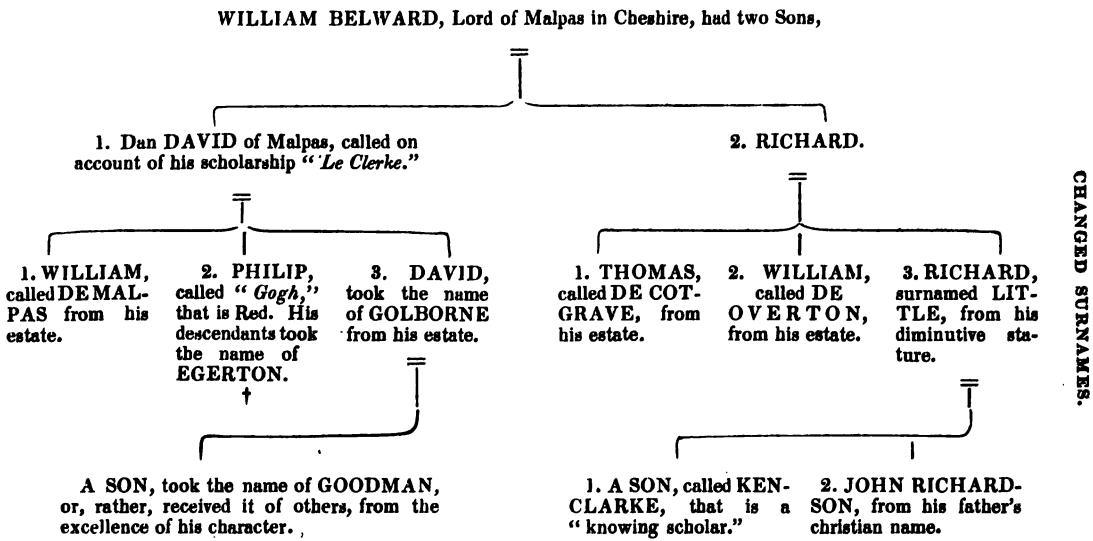
In France it was formerly customary for eldest sons to take their fathers' surnames, while the younger branches assumed the names of the estates allotted them. This plan also prevailed in England some time after the Norman Conquest. Camden gives several instances. "If Hugh of Suddington gaue to his second sonne his mannour of Fridon, to his third sonne his mannour of Pantley, to his fourth his wood of Albdy, the sonnes called themselves De Frydon, De Pantley, De Albdy, and their posterity remooued *De*. So Hugh Montforte's second sonne, called Richard, being Lord of Hatton in Warwickeshire, tooke the name of Hatton. So the yongest sonne of Simon de Montfort, Earle of Leicester, staying in England when his father was slaine and brethren fled, tooke the name of *Welsborne*, as some of that name haue reported. So the name of Euer came from the mannour of Euer, neare Uxbridge, to yonger sonnes of L. John Fitz-Robert de

* Camden. † Ibid.

Clauering, From whom the Lord Euers, and Sir Peter Euers of Axholme are descended. So Sir John Cradocke, knight, great grandfather of Sir Henry Newton of Somersetshire, tooke first the name of Newton, which was the name of his habitation; as the issue of Huddard in Cheshire tooke the name of Dutton their chief mansion."*

The annexed little pedigree of a family in Cheshire soon after the Conquest affords a most striking illustration of the changes which occurred in family names before hereditary surnames were fully established, and the difficulty which must be experienced in tracing pedigrees in those early times. It was taken by Camden "out of an antient Roule belonging to Sir William Brereton of Brereton, knight."

* Camd. Rem., p. 123.


WILLIAM BELWARD, Lord of Malpas in Cheshire, had two Sons,
1. Dan DAVID of Malpas, called on account of his scholarship "Le Clerke."
2. RICHARD.
1. WILLIAM, called DE MALPAS from his estate.
2. PHILIP, called "Gogh," that is Red. His descendants took the name of EGERTON. †
3. DAVID, took the name of GOLBORNE from his estate.
1. THOMAS, called DE COTGRAVE, from his estate.
2. WILLIAM, called DE OVERTON, from his estate.
3. RICHARD, surnamed LITTLE, from his diminutive stature.
A SON, took the name of GOODMAN, or, rather, received it of others, from the excellence of his character.
1. A SON, called KENCLARKE, that is a "knowing scholar."
2. JOHN RICHARDSON, from his father's christian name.

From this table it will be seen that in four descents, and among about fifteen persons descended from one and the same individual, there were no less than *thirteen* surnames. Well may our antiquary say, "Verily the gentlemen of those so different names in Cheshire would not easily be induced to believe they were descended from one house, if it were not warranted by so ancient a proofe."* It is also worthy of remark that we have here in one family, within the compass, probably, of a single century, *five* descriptions of surnames, namely, FOREIGN, as Belward; LOCAL, as De Malpas, De Cotgrave; from PERSONAL QUALITIES, as Gogh or red, and Little; from MENTAL QUALITIES AND ATTAINMENTS, as Goodman and Ken-Clarke; and from the PATERNAL NAME, as Richardson.

Another of Camden's instances:—A young gentleman of the family of Preux, an attendant on Lord Hungerford, Lord Treasurer of England, being of remarkably tall stature, acquired among his companions the sobriquet of *Long Henry*. Marrying afterwards a lady of quality he transposed his names to Henry Long, and became the founder of an eminent family, who bore *Long* as a surname.

* A correspondent has called my attention to a curious fact; namely, the similarity or identity of armorial bearings between families bearing the name of a place, and other families *originally located* in the same place. For instance, the Stanleys were of Lathom—the arms of Lathom and of Stanley are alike. Freschvile, Foljambe, and Daniel, were all antiently connected with Tidswell in Derbyshire: accordingly the arms of all these families and those of Tidswell vary principally in their colours only. The arms of Middleham and of Glanville are very similar, Glanville having been possessed of property at Middleham. This similarity or identity of arms seems to point out an original connexion between the families. In the first case mentioned we have proof of such connexion, for Sir John Stanley, K.G., in the 14th century, married the heiress of Lathom of Lathom, and so acquired that estate. But it must be recollected that tenants in fee often assumed the bearings of their lords, differenced only by colour or the addition of some new charge.—(Vide Chapter of *Canting Arms*.)

There are many cases on record of the sons of great heiresses having left their paternal surnames for that of their mothers: this was done by the Stanleys, Nevilles, Percies, Carews, Cavendish, Braybrookes, &c. &c. Others took the names of attainted lords, whose property fell into their possession: this was the case with the Mowbrays.

Some changed their names by the royal command, as we have seen in the case of the Cromwells. "I love you," said Edward the Fourth to some of the family of *Picard*, "but not your name;" whereupon they adopted others: one took that of *Ruddle*, from the place of his birth;* no improvement, certainly, so far as euphony goes.

During the civil wars in the time of Henry the Fourth, several antient families totally changed their names for the purpose of concealment, as the Blunts of Buckinghamshire, who took that of Croke; and the Carringtons of Warwickshire, who took that of Smith.†

Ralph Brooke, York Herald in 1594, says, "If a man had three sonns, the one dwelling at the *Towns-end*, the other at y^e^ *Woode*, and the thyrde at the *Parke*, they all took theyr surnames of theire dwellinge, and left their aunciente surnames; which errour hath overthrowen and brought into oblyvion manye aunciente houses in this realme of England."‡

With respect to ecclesiastics, or as they are styled by Holinshed, "spiritual men," it was, according to that historian, an almost invariable "fashion to take awaie the father's surname (were it never so worshipful or ancient), and give him for it the name of the towne he was born in." Of this practice amongst the clergy, especially upon their

* Camden. † Fuller's Worthies, p. 51.

‡ From a MS. quoted in Blore's Monumental Remains.

entering into holy orders, innumerable instances occur, but it may be sufficient to quote the two celebrated prelates, William of Wykeham, whose father's name was Longe, and William Waynflete, who, as an unbeneficed acolyte, is found in the episcopal register of Lincoln (as Dr. Chandler conjectures) under the name of Barbor, and which he dropped on becoming a sub-deacon." Waynflete's father was called indifferently Richard Patten or Barbour.*

There is one other circumstance under which, according to Camden, names were changed; namely, when servants took the surnames of their masters. I much question if ever this was of very usual occurrence; if it was, the knowledge of the fact inflicts a sad blow on our plebeian Seymours, and Lovells, and Pierpoints, and Sinclairs, and Spencers, and Tyrrells, who fancy themselves to be descended from noble blood; for they may, after all, be nothing but genuine Smiths, and Browns, and Joneses, and Robinsons, with changed names. Alack-a-day for such pretensions!

Finally, women, at *marriage*, change their surnames. How many wish in this manner to change them: how many regret they have ever done so!

* Archæologia, vol. xviii. p. 109. "It was the use in old time upon entrye into Religion to alter the name and take it from the place, for that by their taking religious habits they were dead persons in law, as to the world, and the next heire should inherite and enter upon their lande as if they were ded indeed; and professing themselves of an order, they were revived to a spiritual life, and so assumed a new name."—*Harl. MS.*, No. 4630.

ESSAY XV.

HISTORICAL SURNAMES.

I HAVE reserved this subject for my last Essay, because it would have been difficult to find a place for it under any of the respective heads to which I have undertaken to reduce our English family names.

By a historical surname I mean, a name which has an allusion to some circumstance in the life of the person who primarily bore it. Thus Sans-terre or Lack-land, the bye-name of King John, as having relation to one incident in that monarch's life, might be designated a historical surname. Of a similar character were the names Scropha and Asinia, borne by the families of the Tremellii, and the Cornelii.* To this class of surnames, also, belongs that of *Nestling*, borne by a Saxon earl, who in his infancy, according to Verstegan, had been rescued from an eagle's nest. Perhaps the term "accidental" would be more proper as applied to such names than that which I have adopted, as they generally had their origin in some accident which befel the persons who first bore them.

Many examples of historical or accidental surnames might be given from antient and mediæval history, but I shall confine myself chiefly to such as have become *here-*

* Vide Essay viii.

ditary within the last eight centuries, and which I have either met with in genealogical records, or gleaned from oral family traditions.

Several of these belong to the period of the Norman Conquest and the times of the Crusades. Thus the name of FORTESCUE is said to have been bestowed on Sir Richard le Forte, (that is "the strong,") one of the leaders in the Conqueror's army, who had the good fortune to protect his chief at the battle of Hastings, by bearing before him a massive *escue* or shield. The noble family descended from this personage use, in allusion to this circumstance and to their name, the punning motto,—Forte Scutum salus Ducum—"A *strong shield* is the safety of commanders."

The following traditionary anecdote belongs to the same date, and accounts for the name of EYRE:

"The first of this family was named *Truelove*, but at the battle of Hastings, Oct. 14, 1066, William was flung from his horse and his helmet beaten into his face, which Truelove observing, pulled off, and horsed him again. The duke told him, "Thou shalt hereafter from Truelove be called *Eyre* (or Air), because thou hast given me the air I breathe." After the battle, the duke, on enquiry respecting him, found him severely wounded (his leg and thigh having been struck off), ordered him the utmost care, and, on his recovery, gave him lands in Derby in reward for his services, and the leg and thigh in armour, cut off, *for his crest*, an honorary badge yet worn by all the Eyres in England."*

There is more of romance than truth in this story, for it must strike the reader as very remarkable, that the per-

* Thorpe's Catalogue of the Deeds of Battel Abbey, p. 106, note.

sonage of whom it is related, a Norman born and bred, should bear a cognomen so very English as True-love. The singular crest borne by his descendants must have originated from some more recent occurrence, as armorial bearings were not used for many years after the battle of Hastings. Still there may be *some* foundation for the tradition. The following has more appearance of credibility; while it is unfortunate that the name to which it refers was borne as a Christian name (*teste Camden*) much earlier than the date of the occurrence.

"Walter, a Norman knight, and a great favourite of the king (William the First), playing at chess on a summer's evening, on the banks of the Ouse, with that king, won all he played for. The king threw down the board, saying he had nothing more to play for. "Sir," said Sir Walter, "here is land." "There is so," replied the king, "and if thou beatest me this game also, thine be all the land on this side the bourne or river, which thou canst see as thou sittest. He *had* the good fortune to win; and the king, clapping him on the shoulder, said, "Henceforth thou shalt be called *Ousebourne*." Hence it is supposed came the name of Osborne."*

The thrice illustrious surname of PLANTAGENET, borne by eight successive kings of England, originated with Foulques or Fulke, count of Anjou, who flourished in the twelfth century. This personage, to expiate some enormous crimes of which he had been guilty, went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and wore in his cap as a mark of his humility, a piece of *planta genesta* or broom (which was sometimes used by his descendants as a crest), and on that account

* Life of Corinna. Pegge's Curialia Miscellanea, p. 319.

was surnamed Plantagenet. The antient English family of *Broome* are said to be lineal descendants of this nobleman.

The following is said to be the origin of the surname of TYNTE: In the year 1192, at the battle of Ascalon, a young knight of the noble house of Arundel, clad all in white, with his horse's howsings of the same colour, so gallantly distinguished himself on that memorable field that Richard Cœur de Leon remarked publicly, after the victory, "that the maiden knight had borne himself as a lion, and done deeds equal to those of six *croises* [crusaders], whereupon he conferred on him for arms, "*a lion gules on a field argent, between six crosslets of the first,*" and for motto, *Tynctus* cruore Saraceno; that is, "Tinged with Saracen blood." His descendants thence assumed the surname of *Tynte,* and settled in Somersetshire.*

William de Albini, earl of Arundel, received the surname of STRONGIMANUS, or *Strong-hand,*† from the following circumstance, as related by Dugdale:

"It happened that the Queen of France being then a widow, and a very beautiful woman, became much in love with a knight of that country, who was a comely person, and in the flower of his youth: and because she thought that no man excelled him in valour, she caused a tournament to be proclaimed throughout her dominions, promising to reward those who should exercise themselves therein according to their respective demerits; and concluding, that if the person whom she so well affected, should act his part better than others in those military exercises, she might marry him without any dishonour to herself. Hereupon divers gallant men from forrain parts hasting to

* Burke's Commoners, vol. iv.

† In this instance the surname did not become hereditary.

Paris, amongst others came this our William de Albini, bravely accoutred, and in the tournament excelled all others, overcoming many, and wounding one mortally with his lance, which being observed by the queen, shee became exceedingly enamoured of him, and forthwith invited him to a costly banquet, and afterwards bestowing certain jewels upon him, offered him marriage; but having plighted his troth to the Queen of England, then a widow, he refused her, whereat she grew so much discontented, that she consulted with her maids how she might take away his life, and in pursuance of that design enticed him into a garden, where there was a secret cave, and in it a fierce lion, unto which she descended by divers steps, under colour of showing him the beast; and when she told him of his fierceness, he answered, that it was a womanish and not a manly quality to be afraid thereof. But having him there, by the advantage of a folding door, she thrust him in to the lion; being therefore in this danger, he rolled his mantle about his arm, and putting his hand into the mouth of the beast, pulled out his tongue by the root; which done, he followed the queen to her palace, and gave it to one of her maids to present unto her. Returning thereupon to England, with the fame of this glorious exploit, he was forthwith advanced to the EARLEDOME OF ARUNDEL, and for his arms the LION given him." He subsequently obtained the hand of the Queen Adeliza, relict of King Henry I., and daughter of GODFREY, DUKE OF LORRAINE, which Adeliza had the CASTLE OF ARUNDEL in dowry from the deceased monarch, and thus her new lord became its feudal earl.

The Scottish surname of DALZELL originated, according to Nisbet, from the following incident. "A favourite of Kenneth II. having been hanged by the Picts, and the

king being much concerned that the body should be exposed in so disgraceful a situation, offered a large reward to him who should rescue it. . . . . This being an enterprise of great danger, no one was found bold enough to undertake it, till a gentleman came to the king and said '*Dal ziel*,' that is 'I dare,' and accordingly performed the hazardous exploit."* In memory of this circumstance his descendants assumed for their arms a man hanging on a gallows, and the motto *I dare*. The Dalziels at length became Earls of Carnwath. Another eminent Scottish surname, that of BUCCLEUCH, is derived, on the authority of Sir Walter Scott, from a very trifling incident. "A king of Scotland being 'on hontynge' in company with his courtiers, a fine *buck* of which he was in pursuit being hard pressed by the hounds fell into a clough or ravine, Scotticè, '*cleuch*.' The sport being thus interrupted, the royal hunter requested one of his attendants to extricate the game in order that the sport might be renewed. This, although no slight task for a single arm, he accomplished to the king's liking, and the athletic courtier received from the king's own mouth the name of *Buck-cleuch*, which is still borne by his descendant, the Duke of Buccleuch."

The old Norman MALVOISIN or MAUVESYN is strictly speaking a local surname, but its origin is so singular that it deserves a place among these anecdotes. Our old historians inform us that when a besieging army erected a tower or castle near the place besieged, such castle was called, in French, a *Malvoisin* or 'dangerous neighbour,' to the enemy, because it threatened to cut him off from all possibility of relief. In the northern district of the Isle of

* Pegge's Curial. Miscel. p. 233.

France, not far from the banks of the Seine, some time stood one of these awful bulwarks, from which the great ancestor of the English family, who was Lord of the neighbouring domain of Rosny, received his surname.*

The name MAULEVERER was antiently written *Malus-Leporarius* or *Malevorer*, the "bad hare hunter," and tradition states that a Yorkshire gentlemen being to let slip a brace of greyhounds to run for a stake of considerable value, held them with so unskilful a hand as rather to endanger their necks than to expedite the capture of the hare. This deficiency of skill brought down upon him the nickname above mentioned, which thenceforward descended to his posterity, an everlasting memorial of his ignorance of hunting-craft. But that learned student in matters genealogical, Peter le Neve, Norry king of arms, more rationally supposes it to be *Malus-operarius*, (in French *Mal-ouverer*), because that in Doomsday Book (Essex, p. 94) occurs the following entry: "Terra Adamis, filii Durandi de Malis Operibus," which I translate, *the land of Adam the son of Durand of the Evil Deeds!* no enviable surname, in truth, if it corresponded to the character of the original bearer. The arms of the family however seem to support the tradition: they are '*Sable, three greyhounds courant in pale, argent.*'

The next anecdote has often appeared under various forms: I give it on the authority of a famous genealogist. "One of the antient Earls of Lennox in Scotland had issue three sons, the eldest succeeded him in the earldom; the second, whose name was Donald; and the third named Sillcrist. The then king of Scots, having wars, did con-

* Burke's Commoners.

vocate his lieges to the battle. Amongst them that were commanded was the Earl of Lennox, who keeping his eldest son at home, sent his second son to serve for him with the forces under his command. The battle went hard with the Scots, for the enemy pressing furiously upon them, forced them to lose ground, until at last they fell to *flat running way*, which being perceived by Donald, he pulled his father's standard from the bearer thereof, and valiantly encountering the foe, (being well followed up by the Earl of Lennox his men,) he repulsed the enemy and changed the fortune of the day, whereby a great victory was got. After the battle, as the manner is, every one advancing and setting forth his own acts, the king said unto them, 'Ye have all done valiantly, but there is one amongst you who hath NA PIER!' (no equal) and calling Donald into his presence, commanded him in regard of his worth, service, and augmentation of his honour, to change his name from Lennox to *Napier*, and gave him lands in Fife, and the lands of Goffurd, and made him his own servant.*"

Some of the Scottish surnames originated in the sloggans, slug-horns, or war-cries used by the clans; as in the case of the HALLIDAYS, an old family of the genuine Celtic blood, who settled in Annandale, and made frequent raids or marauding excursions on the English border. On these occasions they employed the war-cry of "*A Holy Day;*" every day in their estimation being holy that was spent in ravaging the enemy's country: hence the surname.

Tradition is, at best, but "an uncertain voice," and many of the little tales I am now telling, seem to be only

* From a MS. temp. Charles I. written by Sir W. Segar, Garter king of arms; quoted in Burke's Commoners.

"figments of fanciful brains." Such, doubtless, is that which follows, as TYRWHITT is a local name. A knight of Northumberland, who lived in the time of Henry I. being severely wounded in defending a bridge, single-handed, against a host of assailants, fell, the moment he had forced them to retire, exhausted, amongst the flags and rushes of an adjacent swamp, where he would probably have perished had not the attention of his party, who in the mean time had rallied, been directed to the spot where he lay by the vociferations of a flock of *tyrwhitts* or lapwings, who had been disturbed by his fall. Hence, says the story, the wounded Sir Hercules received his surname. This tradition possibly originated in the canting arms borne by the family, which are Gules, three *tyrwhitts* or lapwings or, and the crest, which represents an athletic human figure defending himself with a club.

The next anecdote is about as true as the foregoing, with less point in it. At a remote period (that is to say, "once upon a time,") the head of a certain family having quarrelled with another gentleman, they agreed, as was the fashion, to settle the dispute by single combat in the pound-fold at Alnwick; and such was the deadly hate that influenced them both, that having procured the *key* of the inclosure they locked themselves in, determined not to quit the spot until one should have slain the other. The gentleman first referred to having come off victorious, to escape the vengeance of his enemy's partisans, leaped over the wall of the fold, and escaped to Newcastle-upon-Tyne. From the affair of the *key* he was afterwards called *Key* or *Cay*, the name still borne by his descendants. A lame story truly!

Some of these historical surnames originated from

absurd and servile tenures under the Norman kings. Thierry says, "Those among the Saxons who after much servile crouching succeeded in preserving some slender portion of their patrimony, were obliged to pay for this favour by degrading and fantastic services. . . . One woman is left in the enjoyment of the estate of her husband on condition of feeding the king's dogs. And a mother and son receive their antient inheritance as a *gift*, on condition of their offering up daily prayers for the king's son Richard. "Hoc manerium tenuit Aldene teignus R. E. et vendere potuit sed W. rex dedit hoc m. huic Aldene et matri ejus pro animâ Ricardi filii sui."* From a similar tenure originated the name of PATERNOSTER. In the time of Edward the First *Alyce Paternoster* held lands at Pusey in Berkshire by the service of saying the paternoster, or Lord's prayer, *five times a day* for the souls of the king's ancestors; and Richard Paternoster, on succeeding to the same estate, did not present the fee usual on such occasions—a red rose, a gilt spur, a pound of pepper, or a silver arrow—but went upon his knees before the baronial court and devoutly repeated the 'Pater noster qui es in cœlis,' &c. for the *manes* of the illustrious dead before mentioned; and the like, we are told, had previously been done by his brother, John Paternoster of Pusey.† Among the surnames of this kind we have that of AMEN, which I suppose originated in some equally absurd, (and query irreligious?) custom. Delicacy almost forbids the mention of another name, PETTOUR, which was given to *Baldwin le Pettour*, who held his lands in Suffolk "per saltum, sufflum, and pettum,

* Thierry Norm. Conq. Edit. Whitaker, p. 123. Domesday, 1 fol. 141 ver.

† Vide Blount's Tenures.

sine bumbulum," that is, as Camden translates it, "for dancing, pout-puffing, and doing that before the king of England in Christmasse holydayes which the word ——— signifieth in French."

In a royal wardrobe account, made towards the termination of the thirteenth century, and preserved in the British Museum,* is the following curious entry: "1297, Dec. 26. To MAUD MAKEJOY for dancing before Edward, prince of Wales, in the King's Hall, at Ipswich, 2*s*." Here the surname evidently took its rise from the pleasure which the saltations of this antient *figurante* afforded the royal personage. As this name does not occur in modern times it is probable that the lady lost it in marriage.

Camden relates that a certain Frenchman who had craftily smuggled one T. Crioll, a great feudal lord of Kent about the time of Edward II. out of France into his own country, received from the grateful nobleman a good estate called Swinfield, and (in commemoration of the *finesse* he had displayed on the occasion) the name of FINEUX; which became the surname of his descendants—a family who attained considerable eminence in England.†

In the late Mr. Davies Gilbert's‡ History of Cornwall, is an anecdote of a pretty Cornish maiden, the daughter of a shepherd, who by a concatenation of fortunate circumstances, almost without parallel, became (by three several marriages) the richest woman in England, and a connexion of several of its most dignified families. On

* Addit. MSS. 7965.

† Remaines, p. 117.

‡ This venerable, talented, and much-lamented gentleman paid considerable attention to surnames. Among other conversations which the humble writer of these pages had the honour of enjoying with him, within a week of his somewhat unexpected demise, these formed the topic of a very agreeable colloquy.

this account she received the appropriate surname of BONAVENTURE or *Goodluck*.

The great and widely-spread Scottish family of ARMSTRONG derive their surname from the following circumstance: "An antient king of Scotland having his horse killed under him in battle was immediately remounted by Fairburn, his armour-bearer. For this timely assistance the king amply rewarded him with lands on the borders, and to perpetuate the memory of so important a service, as well as the manner in which it was performed, (for Fairbairn took the king by the thigh and set him on his saddle), his royal master gave him the appellation of *Armstrong*, and assigned him for crest—'an armed hand and *arm*, in the left hand a leg and foot in armour, couped at the thigh all proper.'"*

Alfray (or Fright-all) was the surname of a Sussex worthy, who died in the reign of Elizabeth. As he was in point of rank, a gentleman, and no mention occurs in the pedigree of any progenitor bearing the same name, it seems probable that the surname was adopted by him in reference to some extraordinary strength of limb he possessed: a supposition that receives some support from his epitaph, which may still be seen on a brass plate in the choir of Battel church. The whole inscription is worth copying:

"Thomas Alfraye, good courteous frend,
Interred lyeth heere,
Who so in *actiue strength did passe*
As none was found his peere!

* Burke's Commoners, vol. iv.

And Elizabeth did take to wyfe,
One Ambrose Comfort's child,
Who with him thyrtie one yeares lyvid
A virtuous spouse and mild;
By whom a sonne and daughter eke,
Behind alyue he left,
And eare he fiftie yeares had rune
Death hym of lyfe bereft.
On Neweyeares day of Christe his birth
Which was just eighty-nine,
One thousand and fiue hundreth eke,
Loe here of flesh the fine.
But then his wooful wyfe, of God
With piteous praiers gann crave,
That her own corps with husbande hers
Might ioine in darksome graue,
And that her soule his soule might seek
Amongst the saints aboue,
And there in endless blysse enjoye
Her long desired loue;
The whiche her gratious God did graunt,
To her of Marche the last,
When after that deuorcement sower
One yere and more was past."

There is a tradition that a certain gentleman was compelled, during some popular commotion, to quit his residence in the north of England and to seek safety in flight; but so sudden was his departure that he was unable to provide himself with money, for want of which, in his journey southward, he might have perished had he not providentially found on the highway a *glove* containing a *purse* well stored with gold. How the purse came there, or how the finder satisfied his conscience in keeping its contents, the tradition does not state. It merely adds that deeming an alias to his name necessary, he, in allusion to the circumstance, adopted the surname of PURSE-

GLOVE; a name which is not yet extinct. What credit can be attached to this story I know not: certain it is that many years before the event is supposed to have occurred there was a Thomas Pursglove, (or Purslow, as his name was sometimes spelt,) bishop of Hull.

Many of the names given to *foundlings* might be classed with historical surnames. A poor child picked up at the town of Newark-upon-Trent, received from the inhabitants the whimsical name of *Tom Among us*. Becoming a man of eminence he changed his name for the more euphonious one of DR. THOMAS MAGNUS. He was employed in several embassies, and, in gratitude to the good people of Newark, he erected a grammar-school there, which still exists.*

The following was related to me by a gentleman, one of whose friends witnessed the occurrence. A poor child who had been found in the high-road and conveyed to the village workhouse, being brought before the parish vestry to receive a name, much sage discussion took place, and many brains were racked for an appropriate cognomen. As the circumstance happened in the "month of flowers and song," a good-natured farmer suggested that the poor child should be christened *John May;* an idea in which several of the vestrymen concurred. One of the clique, however, more aristocratic than his neighbours, was of opinion that that was far too good a name for the ill-starred brat, and proposed in lieu of it that of JACK PARISH—the designation that was eventually adopted!

I shall conclude these anecdotes with another on the name of a foundling. There now resides at no great

* Camd. Rem. p. 128.

A CHAPTER OF CANTING ARMS,

&c. &c.

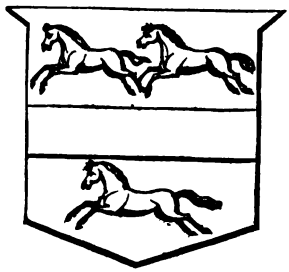
WHEN Rebuses are borne by families as coats of arms, they are called, in the language of heraldry, ARMA CANTANTIA, ARMES PARLANTES, or CANTING ARMS. They seem to be in use in most countries where heraldry is known; thus among the French, DU POIRIER bears 'Or a *Pear tree*, argent;' among the Italians, COLONA bears 'Gules, a *column* argent;' among the Germans, SCHILSTED bears 'Argent, a *sledge*, sable.'* The arms of the united houses of CASTILE and LEON are quarterly, a *castle* and a *lion*.

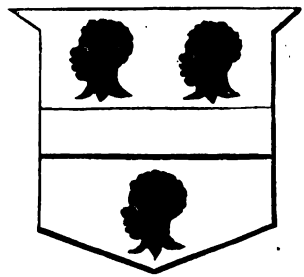
English Heraldry delights in these punning devices. The arms of ARUNDEL are six swallows, in allusion to the French word *hirondelle;* and those of CORBET, a *raven*, referring to the French *corbeau*, from which the surname is derived.

The arms of TOWERS are 'Azure, a tower, or;' those of DE LA CHAMBRE, 'Argent, a chevron, &c. between three

* Porny's Heraldry, p. 16, note.

chamber-pieces, proper;'* those of BRAND, Lord Dacre, two *brands* (or swords) in saltire argent;' those of COOTE, 'Argent, a chevron between three *coots*, sable;' those of HERON, 'Azure, three *herons*, proper;' those of COLT, 'Argent, a fesse between three *colts*, current, sable;' those of OXENDEN, 'Argent, a chevron, between three *oxen*,





sable;' those of BLACKMORE, 'Argent, a fesse between three *blackmoor's* heads erased, sable;' those of CONINGSBY, 'Gules, three *conies*, sejant argent;' that of STARKEY, a *stork;* those of URSON, a *bear* (in Latin *Ursa*); those of LAROCHE, 'Or, a *rook*, sable;' those of SHELLEY, 'Sable, a fesse engrailed between three welk *shells*, or;' those of WOOD, 'Argent, a *tree*, proper;' those of MAUNSELL, 'Argent, a chevron between three *maunches* (antient sleeves)

* *Chamber-pieces*, a species of small cannons. The various kinds of artillery in use amongst our ancestors bore the most singular names. There were cannons and demy-cannons, curtall-cannons and robinets, culverins and demy-culverins, calivers and fowlers, fawcons and fawconets, dragons and basilisks, sakers and petronels, *chambers* and jakers, harquebusses, dags, and pistols! "This," says a writer of the age of Elizabeth, "is the artillerie which is now in *most estimation*." How many more kinds there might be I am unable to say, but the above catalogue seems sufficiently numerous. Most of the above terms are calculated to inspire a degree of terror, being derived from the names of monsters, serpents, and birds of prey. Culverin is from the Fr. *Couleuvraine*, a snake—and faucons, fauconnets, sakers, were various species of birds used in hawking. Dragons, basilisks, &c., need no explanation.

sable;' and those of DOBELL, 'Sable, a *doe* passant, between three *bells*, argent.'

Porny seems inclined to place arms of this description amongst what are called *Assumptive Arms*, that is, such as have been assumed at the caprice of parties to gratify personal vanity, without any authority from the heralds.* It is perhaps impossible to place any limits to the class of coats that come under this designation. It is certain that comparatively few families of antient gentry have any record of the exact date of their arms, or of their having been conferred in a legal manner. The college of arms is of no older date than the reign of Richard the Third. Prior to that time coat-armour was sometimes the immediate gift of royalty, but oftener conferred by commanders on such as had earned it by valour on the battle-field; or given by noblemen to those who held estates under them and followed their banners. Camden says, "Whereas the earles of Chester bare *garbes* or wheat-sheafes, many gentlemen of that countrey tooke wheat-sheafes. Whereas the old earles of Warwicke bare chequy or and azure, a cheueron ermin, many thereabout tooke ermine and chequie. In Leicestershire and the countrey confining diuers bare cinquefoyles, for that the antient earles of Leicester bare geules, a cinquefoyle, ermine. In Cumberland and thereabouts, where the old barons of Kendall bare argent two barres geules, and a lyon passant or, in a canton of the second; many gentlemen thereabout tooke the same in different colours and charges in the canton."† All

* Heraldry, p. 12, note.

† It would seem that the practice of borrowing the arms of other families is not quite extinct, for a certain plebeian high sheriff of Sussex not many years since, on being asked by his coach-maker what arms he would have painted on his carriage, replied, "Oh I don't care—suppose we have *Lord Chichester's*—I think they're as *pretty as any !!*"

this shows that many of our antient families had no good authority for their arms, which were taken up without the warrant of the officers of arms, if any such, in the modern sense of the term, then existed. But if Porny means to insinuate that canting arms have been generally assumed by upstarts within a comparatively recent period, he is certainly mistaken, as many *grants* of such bearings, devised by the heralds themselves, are duly registered in the College of Arms. I recollect one instance of the grant of a coat containing a canting charge within the last few years. King William IV. on visiting his antient borough of Lewes, 10th Oct., 1830, was pleased to use the mansion called 'The Friars,' belonging to Mr. NEHEMIAH WIMBLE, on which occasion His Majesty gave that gentleman a coat of arms, containing, among other charges, a *wimble*.*

But to give some other instances of heraldic rebuses: the family of OAKES *bear acorns*, (very natural that they should!) the BUTLERS, of Ireland, bear *three covered cups*, (very proper again!) the LAMBS, three *lambs*; the BACONS, a *boar*; the PINES a *fir-tree* or *pine*; the PARKERS, a *stag's head*; the CALLS, three *trumpets*; and the FEATHERSTONES, three *feathers*. Sometimes the *crest* cants when the arms do not; this is the case in the family of BEEVOR, a *beaver*; ASHBURNHAM, an *ash* tree, &c. &c.

Canting arms are common in Scotland as well as in England. "The arms of MATTHIAS are three dice (sixes as the highest throw), having, no doubt, a reference to the

* Ermine, on a pile gules, a Lion of England in chief and a *wimble* in base; over all a fesse chequy or and azure, thereon two escallops sable.

Election of *St. Matthias* to the apostleship; "and the lot fell upon Matthias." "The arms of LOCKHART are 'A man's *heart*, proper, within a padlock, sable,' in perpetuation, as they tell you, that one of the name accompanied the good Sir James Douglas to Jerusalem with the heart of king Robert the Bruce."* The following are also from Scottish heraldry: CRAW, three *crows*; FRASER, three *frases* or cinquefoils; FALCONER, a *falcon*; FORESTER, three *bugle-horns*; HEART, three human *hearts*; HOGG, three *boars'* heads; JUSTICE, a *sword* in pale, supporting a *balance*; PEACOCK, a *peacock*; SKENE, three daggers, called in Scotland *skenes*; and BANNERMAN, 'a *banner* displayed argent; on a canton azure, St. Andrew's cross.'

The LUCYS of Warwickshire bore *luces* or pike; three however—not twelve, as might be inferred from Shakspeare, whose Justice Shallow is supposed to be a caricature of a knight of that family. "Merry Wives of Windsor," Act I. Scene 1.

Shallow. Sir Hugh, persuade me not; I will make a Star-chamber matter of it: if he were twenty sir John Falstaffs, he shall not abuse Robert Shallow, esquire.

Slender. In the county of Gloster, justice of peace, and *coram.*

Shal. Ay, cousin Slender, and *Custalorum.*

Slen. Ay, and *ratolorum* too; and a gentleman born, master parson; who writes himself *armigero*; in any bill, warrant, quittance, or obligation, *armigero.*

* Pegge's Curial. Miscel. p. 229.

Shal. Ay that we do; and have done any time these three hundred years.

Slen. All his successors, gone before him, have done't; and all his ancestors, that come after him, may: they may give the *dozen white luces* in their coat.

Shal. It is an old coat.

Evans. The dozen white *louses* do become an *old coat* well; it agrees well, passant: it is a familiar beast to man and signifies — love.

Shal. The *luce* is the fresh fish; the salt fish is an old coat.

The arms of Sir WILLIAM SEVENOKE or SENNOCKE were seven acorns, 3, 3, and 1. This remarkable person was deserted by his parents in infancy, and found either in the hollow of a tree, or in the street, at Sevenoaks, co. Kent, towards the end of the reign of Edw. III. By the charitable assistance of Sir William Rumpstead (the person who found him) and others, he was brought up, and apprenticed in London, where being admitted to the freedom of the Grocers' Company, he gradually rose in eminence, until at length he became Lord Mayor, which office he served with great honour in the 6th year of Henry V., and received from that monarch the honour of knighthood. Three years afterwards he served in parliament for the city of London. He was a benefactor to the parish of St. Dunstan in the East, and also to the place whence he received his name, for "calling to minde the goodness of Almightie God, and the favour of the Townesmen extended towards him, he determined to make an everlasting monument of his thank-

full minde for the same. And therefore of his owne charge builded both an Hospitall for reliefe of the poor, and a free Schoole for the education of youthe within this towne, &c."* He made his will in 1432, and was buried in the Church of St. Martin, Ludgate.

Punning mottoes were at one time much the fashion. The motto of the family of *Piereponte* (Duke of Kingston) is PIE REPONE TE, a capital *hit*, as the three Latin words exactly make up the name. FORTE-SCU*tum Salus Ducum*, the motto of the *Fortescues*, has already been mentioned. The family of ONSLOW use *Festina lente*, "On slow!" or "Hasten slowly." The windows at Chiddingly Place, co. Sussex, the seat of the Jefferays, formerly contained their arms and motto,

"Jeffray ce que Diray,"
I shall do what I say!

The CAVENDISHES use *Cavendo tutus*, "Safety in caution;" the FANES, *Ne vile fano*, "Bring nothing base to the fane, or temple;" the MAYNARDS, M*anus justa* NARDUS, "A just hand is a precious ointment;" the COURTHOPES, *Court hope;* the NEVILLES, NE VILE *velis*, "Incline to nothing base;" the AGARDES, *Dieu me* GARDE, "God defend me;" and the LOCKHARTS, CORDA SERATA *pando*, "I lay open the locked heart." Many of the Scottish mottoes originated in the slug-horn, slogan, or war cry of the clan of which the bearer was chief. Thus the motto of

* Lambarde's Perambulation of Kent, p. 520. Quibbling old Fuller says, "he gave Seven Acorns for his arms, which if they grow as fast in the *Field of Heraldry* as in the *common field*, may be presumed to be *oaks* at this day."—*Worthies*, vol. i. p. 509.

SETON, earl of Wintoun, is *Set-on!* being at once, an exhortation to the retainers to set upon the enemy, and a play upon the name.

The motto of John WELLS, last abbot of Croyland, engraved upon his chair, which is still extant, is,

"Benedicite FONTES Domine."*
Bless the WELLS *O Lord!*

Thus much for canting arms, and punning mottoes: a few additional *allusions*, or puns upon surnames, with a word or two upon *anagrams*, will conclude this chapter and my lucubrations.

Giraldus Cambrensis tells a curious anecdote of three persons travelling together, of whom the first was an archdeacon named Peché, (latinized *Peccatum*,) the second, a rural dean called *Deville*, and the third, a Jew. When they arrived at *Illstreet*, on the borders of Wales, the archdeacon remarked to his subordinate that their jurisdiction began there and extended to *Malpas*. "Ah!" said their companion, "is it even so? a great marvel be it if I escape with a whole skin out of this jurisdiction, where the archdeacon is *Sin*, the dean a *Devil*, and the boundaries *Illstreet* and *Mal-passe!*"†

One ALEXANDER NEQUAM, a man of great learning, wrote to the abbot of St. Albans for leave to enter his monastery, to whom the abbot returned this laconic note:

Si bonus sis, venias, si Nequam, nequaquam.
If you be good you may; if WICKED, by no means!

* There is an engraving of this Chair in Gough's Croyland Abbey, p. 98.
† Camd. Rem. p. 141.

The applicant changed his name to *Neckham*, and was received into the fraternity.*

Gilbert FOLIOTH, bishop of Hereford, having incurred the hatred of the partisans of Archbishop Beckett, one of the latter went to the prelate's window at midnight and vociferated,

"Folioth, Folioth, Folioth,
Thy God is the goddess *Azaroth*!" [Venus.]

To which he promptly replied—

"Thou lyest fowle fiend,
My God is the God of Sabaoth!"†

An epitaph on Mr. JOHN BERRY.

"How! how! who's buried here?
JOHN BERRY, Is't the younger?
No, it is the *Elder*-BERRY.
An ELDER-BERRY *buried* surely must
Rather spring up and live than turn to dust:
So may our BERRY, whom stern death has slain,
Be only *buried* to rise up again."

On the *worthy* Dr. Fuller:

"Here lies FULLER'S EARTH!"

On Dr. Walker, who wrote a book on the English particles:

"Here lie WALKER'S PARTICLES!"

On Mr. AIRE, in St. Giles's Cripplegate:

"Methinks this was a wondrous death,
That AIRE should die for want of breath!"

* Camd. Rem. p. 141.

† Ibid. This is not a pun, but rather what our antiquary calls an *allusion*.

As my motto is, "What's in a Name?" a few words on ANAGRAMS cannot be out of place here. Few people are aware of what their names really include; for they most probably contain a deal of mysterious wisdom did we but know how to extract it. As for myself I am one of those "dull wyttes" who might as well hunt for a statue of Apollo in a block of marble, as try to extract what Camden calls the 'quintessence' of names. I must therefore rest content to be a *compiler*, that is to say, literally, a *robber** of the produce of more fertile geniuses.

"Anagrammatisme or metagrammatisme," (forgive me 'shade of the venerable Camden,' if I, for the hundredth time, again *rob* you,) "is a dissolution of a name truely written into his Letters, as his Elements, and a new connexion of it by artificiall transposition, without addition, substraction, or change of any letter, into different words, making some *perfect sense* applyable to the person named."†

"Some of the sowre sort will say it (namely the searching out of anagrams) is nothing but a troublous ioy, and because they cannot attaine to it will condemne it, least by commending it, they should discommend themselues. Others more milde, will grant it to bee a dainty deuise and disport of wit not without pleasure, if it be not wrested out of the name to the reproach of the person. And such will not deny but that as good names may bee ominous, so also good Anagrammes, with a delightfull comfort and pleasant motion in honest minds, in no point yeelding to any vaine pleasures of the body. They will also afford it some com-

* Compile, v. a. to *rob*, pillage, plunder, filch, steal! How truly honorable, therefore, is the office of a compiler.

† Remaines. Anagrammes, p. 147.

mendations in respect of the difficulty; (*Difficilia quæ pulchra;*) as also that it is the whetstone of patience to them that shall practise it. For some haue beene seene to bite their pen, scratch their head, bend their browes, bite their lips, beate the boord, teare their paper, when they were faire for somewhat, and caught nothing therein."

The invention of anagrams is ascribed to a Greek poet called Lycophron, who flourished about B.C. 380, in the time of Ptolomy Philadelphus, king of Egypt, whose name he proved to be full of sweetness,

ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΣ,
Απὸ μέλιτος—*Made of honey!*

Nor was he less successful upon that of Arsinoe, Ptolomy's wife, which he thus read;

ΑΡΣΙΝΘΗ,
Ερας Ιων—*Juno's violet!*

The practice of making anagrams was first used in modern times in France, upon the revival of learning in that country under Francis the First. Not long after, the following transpositions were made of the name of the unfortunate Mary Stuart, queen of Scotland.

MARIA STUARTA,
Veritas Armata,
Armed Truth.

This, however, does not come up to Camden's rule of "making a perfect sense applyable to the person named." The next is much better:

Maria Stewarda, Scotorum Regina.

TRUSA VI REGNIS, MORTE AMARA CADO,

Thrust by force from my kingdoms, I fall by a bitter death!

It is to the French also, we are indebted for the beautiful anagram on the name of Christ, which has an allusion to the passage in Isaiah LVIII, "He is brought as a sheep to the slaughter."

ΙΗΣΟΥΣ;

Συ ἡ οις—*Thou art that sheep.*

Anagrams, on their introduction into this country, were often employed for the purposes of flattery. Camden cites several, made in his own times, on the names of James the First and his family, which do not, according to my view of that race, conform to his own rule. I shall pass by these and many others my author has given, and come at once to notice a few of the best I have met with upon English names. Among these is that upon

"DOROTHY, VICOUNTESSE LISLE.

Christ joins true love's knot.

Where hands and hearts in sacred linke of love
Are joyn'd in Christ, that match doth happy prove."

Of the name of SIR FRANCIS BACON, LORD KEEPER, one Mr. Tash, 'an especial man in this faculty,' made—

Is born and elect for a ric [*h*] *speaker.*

Of that of JOANNES WILLIAMS, the Welsh divine and statesman, well known as the strenuous opponent of Laud, Mr. Hugh Holland made a most happy quadruple anagram:

1. IO SIS LUMEN IN AULA.

O, mayst thou be a light in the palace!

2. My wall is on high.

3. My wall high Sion.

And (in reference to his love to the country that gave him birth,)

4. WALLIS ES IN ANIMO.

O Wales, how I love thee!

Honest JOHN BUNYAN found out the following for his anagram, which, albeit somewhat defective and rough, is highly characteristic of the man:

John Bunyan.

NU HONY IN A B (!)

The anagram on Monk, afterwards Duke of Albemarle, on the restoration of Chas. II. included an important date in our history:

GEORGIUS MONKE, DUX DE ALBEMARLE,
Ego Regem reduxi, An°. Sa. MDCLVV.
I brought back the King in the year 1660.*

Anagram-making seems to have been the favourite amusement of wits and scholars two or three centuries ago, and every name of note was found to contain what would least be expected from it. Those indeed were the days for seeking 'what's in a name.' By a slight transposition *a Wit* was found in WIAT, *Renoun* in VERNON, and *Lawrel* in WALLER. RANDLE HOLMES, the heraldic writer, was complimented with

LO, MEN'S HERALD!

* D'Israeli Curiosities of Literature, vol. iii. p. 209.

Few anagrams have been more happy than that on Lord Nelson.

HORATIO NELSON,
Honor est à Nilo.
My honour is from the Nile.

It would be an easy matter to extend this gossip over many pages, but I must refer the reader who wishes for more of it to the teeming chapters of Camden and D'Israeli. There is, however, an anecdote connected with anagrammatizing which, although '*decies repetita, placebit.*'

"LADY ELEANOR DAVIES, the wife of the celebrated Sir John Davies, the poet, was a very extraordinary character. She was the Cassandra of her age, and several of her predictions warranted her to conceive she was a prophetess. As her prophecies in the troubled times of Charles I. were usually against the government, she was at length brought by them into the Court of High Commission. The prophetess was not a little mad, and fancied the spirit of Daniel was in her, from an anagram she had formed of her name,

ELEANOR DAVIES,
Reveal O Daniel!

The anagram had too much by an L and too little by an S; yet *Daniel* and *reveal* was in it, and this was sufficient to satisfy her inspirations. The court attempted to dispossess the spirit from the lady, while the bishops were in vain reasoning the point with her out of the scriptures, to no purpose, she poising text against text: one of the deans of Arches, says Heylin, 'shot her thorough and thorough

with an arrow borrowed from her own quiver :' he took a pen, and at last hit upon this excellent anagram:

DAME ELEANOR DAVIES.

Never so mad a Ladie !

"The happy fancy put the solemn court into laughter, and Cassandra into the utmost dejection of spirit. Foiled by her own weapons, her spirit suddenly forsook her; and either she never afterwards ventured on prophesying, or the anagram perpetually reminded her hearers of her state—and we hear no more of this prophetess."*

A few more "last words." A friend of mine has favoured me with two specimens of his own construction, which have so much of the spirit of true metagrammatism in them, that I am sure I shall be pardoned the introduction of them here.

After the battle of Navarino, Admiral Sir Edward Codrington having made some reflections discreditable to the reputation of Capt. R. Dickenson in that affair, Capt. D. demanded a court martial, the result of which was, not only his honorable acquittal, but the most complimentary testimony of the court to his high professional merit. This circumstance gave rise to the anagram below, on the name of

SIR EDWARD CODRINGTON.

Rd. Dic'enson got reward.

George Thompson, Esq., the eloquent anti-slavery advocate, was solicited to go into Parliament, with a view to his more efficiently serving the cause of negro emancipation. This question being submitted to the consideration of his friends, one of them found the following answer in the letters of his name :

GEORGE THOMPSON.

O go—the Negro's M.P. !

* Curiosities of Literature, vol. iii. pp. 212-13.

APPENDIX.

The Roll of Battel Abbey.

I HAVE already mentioned this celebrated document, and I cannot better introduce it to the reader than by citing the Rev. Mark Noble's curious and valuable "Dissertation on the various Changes in the Families of England since the Conquest," prefixed to his History of the College of Arms.

"Those who had fought under the ducal banners [at Hastings] took every possible means to have their names well known and remembered by future ages, not only because they and their descendants would by it be enabled to plead for favours from the reigning family, and an assuring to themselves the estates they had gained, but also from the pride inherent in human nature as founders of families in a country they had won by their prowess. For these reasons the name of every person of any consideration was written upon a Roll, and hung up in the Abbey of Battel.*

"As the persons there mentioned were the patriarchs of most of the English gentry for many ages, and of many of

* William ordered the erection of a monastery on the very spot where he had gained that decisive victory, which gave him the crown of England, from which circumstance it was called *Battel Abbey*.

our chief nobility at the present day, it will not be improper to examine into the authenticity of this roll of names; for different authors have given, some a greater, and some a less, number. As to the orthography it is of little consequence; the spelling of names was not at that time, nor for many ages afterwards, fixed; every one writing them as he pleased.

"Grafton, in his Chronicle, has given very many names, which he received from Clarenceux, king at arms, and out of John Harding's Chronicle, with others. Holinshed mentions upwards of six hundred; Stow, in his Chronicle, only four hundred and seven; Thomas Scriven, Esquire, still fewer. Fuller, in his Church History, has copied them, but he does not mention who Mr. Scriven was, nor from whence that gentleman took them. Foxe, in his Acts and Monuments, has also given in a list of the names of William's officers and great men; but these, Fuller thinks, were not collected by Foxe. This catalogue of names, however, is valuable, because the initials of the christian names are given. The great difference made in these collections naturally leads us to suspect that many omissions are made in some, and that numbers of names have been put in others to please individuals. Sir William Dugdale openly accuses the monks of Battel of flattery, from having inserted the names of persons whose ancestors were never at the conquest. Guilliam Tayleur, a Norman historian, who could not have had any communication with the monks of Battel, has also published the muster-roll which was called over after the battle of Hastings."*

* "The day after the battell, very early in the morning, Odo, Bishop Baieux, sung masse for those that were departed. The duke after that, desirous to know the estate of his battell, and what people he had therein lost and

In the foregoing enumeration of the copies of this famous Roll, the writer does not mention Leland's copy, nor that of Dugdale. It is remarkable that although many, perhaps the majority, of the names occur in all the copies, others occur in one or two only; and the difference between the copies is such as to render all attempts at collation useless. As my object is to give names said to have been introduced into this country by the Norman Conquest, rather than a critical enquiry into the authenticity of the several lists, I shall lay before the reader three of the latter, namely, those of Leland, Holinshed, and Foxe, adding, *en passant*, such notes and observations as may seem useful in illustration of the subject.

The original ROLL, compiled by the monks of Battel, was hung up in their monastery, beneath the following Latin verses:

"Dicitur a bello, Bellum locus hic, quia bello
Anglígenæ dicti, sunt hic in morte relicti:
Martyris in Christi festo cecidere Calixti:
Sexagenus erat sextus millesimus annus
Cum perierunt Angli stella monstrante cometa."

Id est,

"This place is called Battel, because the English, slain in war, were here left dead. They fell on the day of the feast of Christ's martyr, Calixtus. It was the year one thousand and sixty-six when the English perished, a great comet being visible at the time (?)"

slaine, he caused to come unto him a clerk, that had written their names when they were imbarked at S. Valeries, and commanded him to call them all by their names, who called them that had bin at the battell, and had passed the seas with Duke William."—*John Foxe, Acts and Mon.*

A metrical English version of these verses was formerly inscribed on a tablet in the parish church of Battel.

"This place of war is Battel called, because in battle here,
Quite conquered and overthrown the English nation were;
This slaughter happened to them upon St. Celict's day,
The year whereof (1066) this number doth array."

Of the history of the Roll subsequently to the dissolution of the monastery nothing certain is known. Three months after the surrender of the abbey, the site and lands were given by Henry VIII. to Sir Anthony Browne, ancestor of the Viscounts Montague. This family sold the mansion, with its appurtenances, to Sir Thomas Webster, Bart. (whose descendants still possess it), and resided afterwards at their other seat, Cowdray House near Midhurst, and thither this famous document was probably carried.* Cowdray was destroyed by fire in 1793, when the Roll is presumed to have perished, with everything else of value which that lordly edifice contained.

* Gleanings respecting Battel Abbey.

Leland's Copy.

THE preference ought unquestionably to be conceded to this copy. John Leland saw and transcribed the original; and in the notes to his transcript he notices some particular points marked upon the Roll, which he also transfers to his copy. There seems to be an attempt to arrange the names in such a manner as to make the last syllable of the first pair rhyme with that of the second, and also to produce alliteration in the pairs, *e. g.*

"Ferers et Foleville,
Briaunson et Baskeville."

AUMARILL et DEYNCOURT,
Bertrem et Buttencourt,
Baird et Biford,
Bardolf et Basset,
Deyville et Darcy,
Pygot et Percy,
Gurney et Greilly,
Tregos et Trylly,
Camoys et Cameville,
Hautein et Hanville,
Warenne* et Wauncy,

* Some families bearing this name are unquestionably of *English* origin; from the first persons bearing the name having resided near a rabbit-*warren*.

Chauunt et Chauncy,
Loveyne et Lascy,
Graunson et Tracy,
Mohaud et Mooun,
Bigot* et Brown,†
Marney et Maundeville,
Vipont et Umfreville,
Mauley et Meneville,
Burnel et Buttevillain,
Malebuche et Malemayn,
Morteyn et Mortimer,
Comeyn et Columber,
St. Cloyis et St. Clere,‡
Otinel et St. Thomer,
•• §
Gorgeise et Gower,
Bruys et Dispenser,
Lymesey et Latymer,
Boys et Boteler,
Fenes et Filebert,
Fitz-Roger et Fitz-Robert,
Martine et Muse,
St. Ligiere et Quyncy,
Cricketot et Crevecuer,
Morley et Moundeville,

* According to Camden the name of Bigod was a *sobriquet* given to the Normans for their profanity, "because at euery other word they would sweare *by God*." (Remaines, p. 106.)

† This name occurs in most copies of the *Roll*, but it would seem to be an interpolation, unless, indeed, it be an English spelling of the French *Brun*.

‡ Some of the Normans "affecting religion took the name of some Saint." (Noble, p. 6, 7.)

§ Sic cum duobus punctis.

Baillol et Boundeville,
Estraunge et Estoteville,
Mowbray et Morville,
Viez et Vinoun,
Audele et Aungeloun,
Vausteneys et Wauille,
Soucheville Coudrey et Colleville,
Ferers et Foleville,
Briaunson et Baskeville,
Neners et Nereville,
Chaumberlayne et Chaumberoun,
Fitz-Walter et Werdoun,
Argenteyn et Avenele,
Ros et Ridel,
Hasting* et Haulley,
Merkenfell et Mourreis,
Fitz-Phillip et Filiot,
Takel et Talbot,
Lenias et Levecot,
Fourbeville et Tipitot,
Saunzauer et Saundford,
Mountague et Mountford,
Forneux et Furnivaus,
Valence et Vaux,
Clerevals et Clarel,
Dodingle et Darel,
Mantelent et Maudiet,
Chapes et Chaudut,

* This name would seem to be of the local kind, and was probably borrowed from Hastings in Sussex. This, however, is no argument against the Norman origin of this celebrated family as some Norman grandees took the names of the seignories given them by the Conqueror.

Cauntelow et Coubray,
Sainct Teac et Saunay,
Braund et Baybof,
Fitz-Alayne et Gilebof,
Maunys et Maulos,
Power et Panel, alias Paignel,
Tuchet et Trusselle,
Peche et Peverelle,
Daubenay et Deverelle,
Sainct Amande et Adryelle,
Ryvers et Ryvel,
Loveday et Lovel,
Denyas et Druel,
Mountburgh et Mounsorel,
Maleville et Malet,
Newmarch et Newbet,
Corby et Corbet,
Mounfey et Mountfichet,
Gaunt et Garre,
Maleberge et Marre,
Geneville et Gifard,
Someray et Howarde,
Perot et Pykard,
Chaundoys et Chaward,
De la Hay et Haunsard,
Mussegros et Musard,
Maingun et Mountravers,
Fovecourt et Feniers,
Vesay et Verders,
Brabason et Bevers,
Challouns et Chaleys,

Maihermer et Muschet,
* *
Baus et Bluet,
Beke et Biroune,
Saunz Peur et Fitz Simoun,
Gaugy† et Gobaude,
Rugetius et Fitz-Bohant,
Peverel et Fitz-Payne,
- ger,
Fitz-Robert et Fitz-Aleyne,
* * * ‡
Souley et Soules,
Bruys et Burgh,
Neville et Newburgh,
Fitz-William et Wateville,§
De la Launde et Del Isle,
Sorel et Somery,
St. John et St. Jory,
Wavile et Warley,
De la Pole et Pinkeney,
Mortivaus et Mounthensey,
Cresсy et Courteny,
St. Leo et Lascey,
Bavent et Bassey,

* Sic cum puncto sub posteriore parte literæ *m*.

† Gage?

‡ Sic cum tribus punctis.

§ The termination *ville* (equivalent to our own *ton*) was the prevalent one among the Normans. Noble gives the following general rule for ascertaining the district to which any particular name in the Roll should be assigned: "The Norman names end chiefly in *-ville*; those of Anjou in *-lere*; those of Guienne and the banks of the Garonne in *-ac*; and those of Picardy in *-cour*."

Lascels et Lovein,
Thays et Tony,
Hurel et Husee,
Longville et Longespe,
De Wake et De la War,
De la Marche et De la Marc,
Constable et Tally,
*
Poynce et Paveley,
Tuk et Tany,
Mallop et Marny,
Paifrer et Plukenet,
Bretoun et Blundet,
Myriet et Morley,
Tyriet et Turley,
Fryville et Fresell,
De la River et Rivell,
Destranges et Delatoun,
Perrers et Pavilloun,
Vallonis et Vernoun,
Grymward et Gernoun,
Herey et Heroun,
Verdour et Veroun,
Dalseny et Dautre,
Mengle et Maufe,
Maucovenaunt et Mounpinson,
Pikard et Pinkadoun,
Gray et Graunson,
Diseny et Dabernoun,
Maoun et Mainard,
Banestre et Bekard,

* Sic, cum puncto sub posteriore *l*.

Bealum et Beauchamp,
* *
Loverak et Longechamp,
Baudin et Bray,
Saluayn et Say,
Ry et Rokel,
Fitz-Rafe et Rosel,
Fitz-Bryan et Bracey,
Place et Placey,
Damary et Deveroys,
Vavasor et Warroys,†
Perpounte et Fitz-Peris,
Sesce et Solers,
Navimere et Fitz-Nele,
Waloys et Levele,
Caumpeneys et Chaunceus,
Malebys et Monceus,
Thorney et Thornille,
Wace et Wyville,
Velroys et Wacely,
Pugoys et Paiteny,
Galofer et Gubioun,
Burdet et Baroun,
Davarenge et Duylly,
Soverenge et Snylly,
Kymarays et Kyriel,
Lisours et Longvale,
Glauncourt et Chaumont,
Bawdewyn et Beaumont,

* Sic, cum puncto sub posteriore parte literæ *m*.

† The names that contain the letters w and x are thought to be Flemish—those letters not being found in Norman-French.

Graundyn et Gerdoun,
Blundel et Burdoun,
Fitz-Rauf* et Filiol,
Fitz-Thomas et Tybot,
Onatule et Cheyni,
Maulicerer et Mouncey,
Querru et Coigners,
Mauclerk et Maners,
Warde et Werlay,
Nusetys et Merlay,
Baray et Breteville,
Tolimer et Treville,
Blounte et Boseville,
Liffard et Oseville,
Benny et Boyville,
Courson et Courtville,
Fitz-Morice et St. More,
Broth et Barbedor,
Fitz-Hugh et Fitz-Henry,
Fitz-Aviz et Esturmy,
Walangay et Fitz-Warin,
Fitz-Raynald et Roselin,
Baret et Bourt,
Heryce et Harecourt,
Venables et Venour,
Hayward† et Henour,
Dulce et De la Laund,
De la Valet et Veylaund,

* Verstegan is of opinion that the prefix FITZ originated in Flanders. It is remarkable that it is now unknown in France, and that it does not occur in the antient chronicles of that country.—*Noble.*

† This is evidently an English name.

De la Plaunche et Puterel,
Loring et Loterel,
Fitz-Marmaduk et Mountrivel,
Tinel et Travile,
Byngard et Bernevale,
La-Muile et Lownay,
Damot et Damay,
* *
Bonet et Barry,
Avonel et St. Amary,
Jardyn et Jay,
Fourys et Tay,
Aimeris et Avereris,
Vilain et Valeris,
Fitz-Eustace et Eustacy,
Mauches et Massey,
Brian et Bidin,
Movet et St. Martine,
Surdevale et Sengryn,
Buscel et Bevery,
Durant et Doreny,
Disart et Dorynell,
Male-Kake et Mauncel,
Burneville et Bretville,
Hameline et Hareville,
De la Huse et Howel,
Fingez et Coruyele,
Chartes et Chenil,
Belew et Bertine,

* Sic cum duobus punctis.

Mangysir et Mauveysin,
Angers et Angewyne,
Tolet et Tisoun,
Fermbaud et Frisoun,
* * *
St. Barbe et Sageville,
Vernoun et Waterville,
Wermelay et Wamerville,
u
Broy et Bromeville,
* * *
Bleyn et Briecourt,
Tarteray et Chercourt,
Oysel et Olifard,
Maulovel et Maureward,
Kancœs et Keveters,
Loif et Lymers,
Rysers et Reynevile,
Busard et Belevile,
Rivers et Ripers,
Perechay et Perers,
Fichent et Trivent.

* Sic cum duobus punctis.
† Sic cum duobus punctis.

Holinshed's Copy.

Aumarle,	Bertram,	Blondell,
Aincourt,	Buttecourt,	Breton,
Audeley,	Brebus and	Bluat, and
Angilliam,	Bysey,	Baious,
Argentoune,	Bardolfe,	Browne,
Arundel,	Basset and	Beke,
Auenant,	Bigot,	Bikard,
Abell,	Bohun,	Banastre,
Arwerne,	Bailif,	Baloun,
Aunwers,	Bondevile.	Beauchampe,
Angers,	Brabason,	Bray, and
Angenoun,	Baskervile,	Bandy,
Archere,	Bures,	Bracy,
Anuay,	Bounilaine,	Boundes,
Asperuile,	Bois,	Bascoun,
Abbevile,	Botelere,	Broilem,
Andevile,	Bourcher,	Broleuy,
Amouerduile,	Brabaion,	Burnell,
Arcy and,	Berners,	Bellet,
Akeny,	Braibuf,	Baudewin,
Albeny,	Brand and	Burdon,
Aybeuare,	Brouce,	Berteuilay,
Amay,	Burgh,	Busseuille,
Aspermound	Bushy,	Blunt,
Amerenges,	Banet,	Baupere,

Bevill,	Braine,	Cribett,
Barduedor,	Brent,	Creuquere,
Brette,	Braunch,	Corbine,
Barrett,	Belesur,	Corbett,
Bonrett,	Blundell,	Chaundos,
Bainard,	Burdett,	Chaworth,
Barnivale,	Bagott,	Cleremaus,
Bonett,	Beauuise,	Clarell,
Bary,	Belemis,	Chopis,
Bryan,	Beisin,	Chaunduit,
Bodin,	Bernon,	Chantelow,*
Beteruile,	Boels,	Chamberay,†
Bertin,	Belefroun,	Cressy,
Bereneuile,	Brutz,	Curtenay,
Bellew,	Barchampe,	Conestable,
Beuery,	Beaumont,	Cholmeley,
Bushell,	Barre.	Champney,
Boranuile,	Camois,	Chawnos,
Browe,	Camvile,	Coinivile,
Beleuers,	Chawent,	Champaine,
Buffard,	Cauncy,	Careuile,
Bonueier,	Conderay,	Carbonelle,
Botevile,	Colvile,	Charles,
Bellire,	Chamberlaine,	Chereberge,
Bastard,	Chambernoun,	Chawnes,
Brazard,	Comin,	Chaumont,
Beelhelme,	Columber,	Caperoun,‡

* Cantelupe ? † De-la-Chambre ?

‡ Caperoun. The antient family of Quaife, of Kent and Sussex, have a tradition that their ancestor came into England with the Conqueror, and that he was called *Cofe*, because he wore a *hood* in battle instead of a helmet. Now *caperoun* is the old French for *chaperon*, a hood, which renders it exceedingly probable that the individual named in the Roll, and the person referred to by the tradition are identical.

Cheine,
Curson,
Couille,
Chaiters,
Cheines,
Cateray,
Cherecourt,
Cammile,
Clerenay,
Curly,
Cuily,
Clinels,
Clifford.
Denaville,
Derey,
Dive,
Dispencere,
Daubeney,
Daniel,
Deuise and
Druell,
Devaus,
Davers,
Dodingsels,
Darell,
Delaber,
De la Pole,
De la Linde,
De la Hill,

De la Ware,
De la Uache,
Dakeny,
Dauntre,
Desny,
Dabernoune,
Damry,
Daueros,
Dauonge,
Duilby,
De la Uere,
De la Hoid,
Durange,
Delee,
Delaund,
Delaward,
De la Planch,
Damnot,
Danway,
Deheuse,
Deuile,
Disard,
Doiville,
Durand,
Drury,
Dabitott,
Dunstervile,
Dunchamp,
Dambelton.

Estrange,
Estuteville,
Engaine,
Estriels,
Esturney.
Ferrerers,
Folvile,
Fitz Walter,
Fitz Marmaduke,
Fleuez,
Filberd,
Fitz Roger,
Fauecourt,
Ferrers,
Fitz Philip,
Foliot,
Furnieueus,
Fitz Otes,
Fitz William,
Fitz Roand,
Fitz Pain,
Fitz Auger,
Fitz Aleyn,
Fitz Rauf,
Fitz Browne,
Fouke,
Frevile,
Front de Bœf,*
Facunburge,

* An early instance of the *sobriquet*, literally signifying "the forehead of an ox."

Forz,	Fitz Fitz,	Guines,
Frisell,	Fitz John,	Griuel,
Fitz Simon,	Fleschampe.	Greneuile,
Fitz Fouk,	Gurnay,	Glateuile,
Folioll,	Gressy,	Giffard,
Fitz Thomas,	Graunson,	Gouerges,
Fitz Morice,	Gracy,	Gamages.
Fitz Hugh,	Georges,*	Hauteny,
Fitz Henrie,	Gower,	Haunsard,
Fitz Waren,	Gaugy,	Hastings,
Fitz Rainold,	Goband,	Hanlay,
Flamvile,	Gray,	Haurell,
Formay,	Gaunson,	Husee,
Fitz Eustach,	Golofre,	Hercy,
Fitz Lawrence,	Gobion,	Herioun,
Formibaud,	Grensy,	Herne,
Frisound,	Graunt,	Harecourt,
Finere,	Greile,	Henoure,
Fitz Robert,	Grenet,	Houell,
Furnivall,	Gurry,	Hamelin,
Fitz Geffrey,	Gurley,	Harewell,*
Fitz Herbert,	Grammori,	Hardell,
Fitz Peres,	Gernoun,	Haket,
Fichet,	Grendon,	Hamound,
Fitz Rewes,	Gurdon,	Harcord.

* From the frequent occurrence of names with such very English orthographies, one of two things is pretty certain. Either the monks of Battel introduced names of English families surreptitiously to gratify the vanity of benefactors, or the Roll cannot have been compiled until many years after the foundation of the abbey, and by persons who did not understand the French language. This remark may seem to clash with a former note; (vide the name of Hasting in Leland's copy) but the names borrowed from seignories in England, *immediately* after the conquest, were very few in number.

Jarden,
Jay,
Jeniels,
Jerconuise,
Januile,
Jasperuile.
Kaunt,
Karre,
Karrowe,
Keine,
Kimaronne,
Kiriell,
Kancey,
Kenelre.
Loueney,
Lacy,
Linnebey,
Latomer,
Loveday,
Lovell,
Lemare,
Leuetot,
Lucy,
Luny,
Logeuile,
Longespes,
Louerace,
Longechampe,
Lascales,
Louan,
Leded,
Luse,

Loterell,
Loruge,
Longueuale,
Loy,
Lorancourt,
Loious,
Limers,
Longespay,
Laumale,
Lane,
Lovetot.
Mohant,
Mowne,
Maundevile,
Marmilon,
Moribray,
Morvile,
Miriel,
Maulay,
Malebrauch,
Malemaine,
Mortimere,
Mortimaine,
Muse,
Marteine,
Mountbother,
Mountsoler,
Maleuile,
Malet,
Mourteney,
Monfichet,
Maleherbe,

Mare,
Musegros,
Musarde,
Moine,
Montrauers,
Merke,
Murres,
Mortiuale,
Monchenesey,
Mallony,
Marny,
Mountagu,
Mountford,
Maule,
Monthermon,
Musett,
Menevile,
Manteuenant,
Manse,
Menpincoy,
Maine,
Maniard,
Morell,
Mainell,
Maleluse,
Memorous,
Morreis,
Morleian,
Maine,
Malevere,
Mandut,
Mountmarten.

Vere,
Vernoun,
Vesey,
Verdoune,
Valence,
Verdeire,
Vavasour,
Vendore,
Verlay,
Valenger,*
Venables,
Venoure,
Vilan,
Verland,
Valers,
Veirny,
Vauuruile,
Veniels,
Verrere,
Vschere,
Vessay,
Vanay,
Vian,
Vernoys,
Vrnall,
Vnket,
Vrnaful,
Vasderoll,
Vaberon,
Valingford,
Venecorde,
Valiue,
Viuille,
Vancorde, and
Valenges,
Wardebois,
Ward,
Wafre,
Wake,
Wareine,
Wate,
Watelin,
Watevil,
Wely,
Werdonell,
Wespaile,
Wivell.

* Now *Wallinger.*

John Foxe's Copy.

It is, strictly speaking, a misnomer to call this a copy of the Battel Roll. Foxe does not mention it as such, but says, he took it "out of the Annals of Normandy, in French, whereof one very ancient written booke in parchment remaineth in the custody of the writer hereof."

"*The names of those that were at the Conquest of England.*

Odo, Bishop of Baieux,
Robert, Conte de Mortaign,—these two were brethren unto Duke William by their mother,
Baudwin de Buillon,
Roger Conte de Beaumont, surnamed With the Beard, of whom descended the line of Meullent,
Guillaume Malet,
Le Sire de Monfort, sur Rille,
Guill. de Viexpont,
Neel de S. Saveur le Viconte,
Le Sire de Hougiers,
Henry Seigneur de Ferrieres,
Le Sire Daubemare,
Guillaume Sire de Rommare,*

* It is pretty evident that this personage and numerous others in this list had not as yet assumed surnames, although they soon after took the names of their estates as family appellatives.

Le Sire de Lithehare,
Le Sire de Touque,
Le Sire de la Mare,
Le Sire de Neauhou,
Le Sire de Pirou,
Rob. Sire de Beaufou,
Le Sire Davou,
Le Sire de Sotoville,
Le Sire de Margneville,
Le Sire de Tancarville,
Eustace Dambleville,
Le Sire de Mangneville,
Le Sire de Gratmesnil,
Guillaume Crespin,
Le Sire de S. Martin,
Guill. de Moulins,
Le Sire de Puis,
Geoffrey Sire de Maienne,
Auffroy de Bohon,
Auffroy and Maugier de Cartrait,
Guill. de Garrennes,
Hue de Gournay,
Sire de Bray,
Le Conte Hue de Gournay,
Euguemont de L'aigle,*
Liviconte de Touars,
Rich. Danverrnechin,
Le Sire de Biars,
Le Sire de Solligny,
Le Bouteiller Daubigny,

* Elsewhere called Engenulph d'Aquila or Aguillon.

Le Sire de Maire,
Le Sire de Vitry,
Le Sire de Lacy,
Le Sire du Val Dary,
Le Sire de Tracy,
Hue Sire de Montfort,
Le Sire de Piquegny,
Hamon de Kaieu,
Le Sire Despinay,
Le Sire de Port,
Le Sire de Torcy,
Le Sire de Iort,
Le Sire de Riviers,
Guillaume Moyonne,
Raoul Tesson de Tin-Gueleiz,
Roger Marmion,
Raoul de Guel,
Avenel des Biars,
Paennel du Monstier-Hubert,
Rob. Bertram le Tort,
Le Sire de Seulle,
Le Sire de Dorival,
Le Sire de Breval,
Le Sire de S. Iehan,
Le Sire de Bris,
Le Sire du Homme,
Le Sire de Sauchhoy,
Le Sire de Cailly,
Le Sire de Semilly,
Le Sire de Tilly,
Le Sire de Romelly,
Mar. de Basqueville,

Le Sire de Preaulx,
Le Sire de Gonis,
Le Sire de Sainceaulx,
Le Sire de Moulloy,
Le Sire de Monceaulx.

¶ *The Archers du Val du Reul, and of Bretheul, and of many other places.*

Le Sire de S. Saen, i. de S. Sydonio,
Le Sire de la Kiviere,
Le Sire de Salnaruille,
Le Sire de Rony,
Eude de Beaugieu,
Le Sire de Oblie,
Le Sire de Sacie,
Le Sire de Nassie,
Le Visquaius de Chymes,
Le Sire du Sap,
Le Sire de Glos,
Le Sire de Mine,
Le Sire de Glanuille,
Le Sire de Breencon,
Le Vidam de Partay,
Raoul de Morimont,
Pierre de Bailleul Sire de Fiscamp,
Le Sire de Beaufault,
Le Sire de Tillieres,
Le Sire de Pacy,
Le Seeschal de Torcy,
Le Sire de Gacy,

Le Sire de Doully,
Le Sire de Sacy,
Le Sire de Vacy,
Le Sire de Tourneeur,
Le Sire de Praeres,
Guillaume de Coulombieres,
Hue Sire de Bollebec,
Rich. Sire Dorbeck,
Le Sire de Bonneboz,
Le Sire de Tresgoz,
Le Sire de Montfiquet,
Hue le Bigor de Maletot,
Le Sire de la Hay,
Le Sire de Mombray,
Le Sire de Say,
Le Sire de lay Ferte,
Bouteuillian,
Troussebout,
Guillaume Patric de la Laund,
Hue de Mortemer,
Le Sire Danuillers,
Le Sire Donnebaut,
Le Sire de S. Cler,
Rob. le filz Herneys Duc de Orleans,
Le Sire de Harecourt,
Le Sire de Crevecœur,
Le Sire de Deincourt,
Le Sire de Bremetot,
Le Sire Combray,
Le Sire Daunay,
Le Sire de Fontenay,
Le Conte Deureux,

Le Sire de Rebelchil,
Alain Fergant Conte de Britaigne,
Le Sire de S. Vallery,
Le Conte Deu,
Gualtier Gifford Conte de Longeville,
Le Sire Destouteville,
Le Conte Thomas Daubmalle,
Guill. Conte de Hoymes and D'Arques,
Le Sire de Bereville,
Le Sire de Breante,
Le Sire de Freanvible,
Le Sire de Pauilly,
Le Sire de Clere,
Toustan du Bec,
Le Sire Maugny,
Roger de Montgomery,
Amauri de Touars.

Out of the ancient Chronicles of England, touching the names of other *Normans* which seemed to remaine alive after the battell, and to be advanced in the signiories of this land:

John de Maudevile,
Adam Vndevile,
Bernard de Frevile,
Rich. de Rochuile,
Gilbert de Frankuile,
Hugo de Dovile,
Symond de Rotevile,
R. de Evile,
B. de Knevile,
Hugo de Morvile,
R. de Colevile,
A. de Warvile,
C. de Karvile,
R. de Rotevile,
S. de Stotevile,
H. Bonum,
I. Monum,
W. de Vignoum,

K. de Vispount,
W. Bailbeof,
S. de Baleyn,
H. de Marreys,
I. Aguleyne,
G. Agilon,
R. Chamburlayne,
N. de Vendres,
H. de Verdon,
H. de Verto,
C. de Vernon,
H. Hardul,
C. Cappan,
W. de Camvile,
I. de Cameyes,
R. de Rotes,
R. de Boys,
W. de Waren,
T. de Wardboys,
R. de Boys,
W. de Audeley,
K. Dynham,
R. de Vaures,
G. Vargenteyn,
I. de Hastings,
G. de Hastank,
L. de Burgee,
R. de Butuileyn,
H. de Malebranch,
S. de Malemain,
G. de Hautevile,
H. Hauteyn,
R. de Morteyn,
R. de Mortimer,
G. de Kanovile,
E. de Columb,
W. Paynal,
C. Panner,
H. Pontrel,
I. de Rivers,
T. Revile,
W. de Beauchamp,
R. de Beaupale,
E. de Ou,
F. Lovel,
S. de Troys,
I. de Artel,
John de Montebrugge,
H. de Monteserel,
W. Trussebut,
W. Trussel,
H. Byset,
R. Basset,
R. Molet,
H. Malovile,
G. Bonet,
P. de Bonvile,
S. de Rovile,
N. de Norback,
I. de Corneux,
P. de Corbet,
W. de Mountague,

S. de Mountfychet,
I. de Genevyle,
H. Gyffard,
I. de Say,
T. Gilbard,
R. de Chalons,
S. de Chauward,
H. Ferret,
Hugo Pepard,
I. de Harecourt,
H. de Haunsard,
I. de Lamare,
P. de Mautrevers,
G. de Ferron,
R. de Ferrers,
I. de Desty,
W. de Werders,
H. de Borneuile,
I. de Saintenys,
S. de Syncler,
R. de Gorges,
E. de Gemere,
W. de Feus,
S. de Filberd,
H. de Turbervile,
R. Trobleneur,
R. de Angon,
T. de Morer,
T. de Rotelet,
H. de Spencer,
E. de Saintquenten,
I. de Saint Martin,
G. de Custan,
Saint Constantine,
Saint Leger and Saint Med,
M. de Cronu and de S. Viger,
S. de Crayel,
R. de Crenker,
N. Meyuel,
I. de Berners,
S. de Chumly,
E. de Chares,
J. de Gray,
W. de Grangers,
S. de Grangers,
S. Baubenyn,
H. Vamgers,
E. Bertram,
R. Bygot,
S. Treoly,
I. Trigos,
G. de Feues,
H. Filiot,
R. Taperyn,
S. Talbot,
H. Santsaver,
T. de Samford,
G. de Vandien,
C. de Vautort,
G. de Mountague,
Tho. de Chambernon,
S. de Montfort,

R. de Ferneuaulx,
W. de Valence,
T. Clarel,
S. de Cleruaus,
P. de Aubemarle,
H. de Saint Arvant,
E. de Auganuteys,
S. de Gant,
G. de Malearbe,
H. Mandut,
W. de Chesun,
L. de Chandut,
B. Filz Urs,
B. Vicont de Low,
G. de Cantemere,
T. de Cantlow,
R. Breaunce,
T. de Broxeboof,
S. de Bolebec,
B. Mol de Boef,
I. de Muelis,
R. de Brus,
S. de Brewes,
J. de Lille,
T. de Bellile,
J. de Watervile,
G. de Nevile,
R. de Neuburgh,
H. de Burgoyne,
G. de Bourgh,
S. de Lymoges,
L. de Lyben,
W. de Helyoun,
H. de Hildrebron,
R. de Loges,
S. de Saintlow,
I. de Maubank,
P. de Saint Malow,
R. de Leoferne,
I. de Lovotot,
G. de Dabbevile,
H. de Appetot,
W. de Percy,
H. de Lacy,
C. de Quincy,
E. Tracy,
R. de la Souche,
V. de Somery,
I. de Saint John,
T. de Saint Gory,
P. de Boyly,
R. de Saint Valery,
P. de Pinkeny,
S. de Pavely,
G. de Monthaut,
T. de Mountchesy,
R. de Lymozy,
G. de Lucy,
I. de Artois,
N. de Artey,
P. de Grenvile,
I. de Greys,

V. de Cresty,
F. de Courcy,
T. de Lamar,
H. de Lymastz,
I. de Moubray,
C. de Morley,
S. de Gorney,
R. de Courtenay,
P. de Gourney,
R. de Cony,
I. de la Huse,
R. de la Huse,
V. de Longevile,
P. Longespy,
I. Pouchardon,
R. de la Pomercy,
I. de Pountz,
R. de Pontlarge,
R. Estraunge,
Tho. Savage.

Latinized Surnames.

As Latin was the language employed by the clerks of early times, proper names were almost uniformly latinized. This practice was in full vogue from the eleventh century to the sixteenth, in most legal and other documents written in that language. Thus Hall was made D'Aula, Rivers, De Ripariis, and Haultry, D'Alta Ripa; Gilbert de Aquila, surnamed the Great, who flourished in the eleventh century, was called Gislebertus Magnus. This name was again transformed into the Saxon as Gilbert Michel, and it is remarkable that although the family of which he was the head is extinct in the legitimate line, there are two English families illegitimately descended from him still in existence —one bearing for their patronymic *Egles*, from Aquila, and the other *Michel*, from Magnus—the one his *family*, the other his *personal* surname. By means of this latinization some very commonplace names were transformed into high-sounding appellations—Goldsmith and Saltmarsh, for instance, became *Aurifaber* and *Salsomarisco*. Sometimes the English form was retained with a Latin termination, as *Lowerus Boscowinus*, Lower Boscowen, *Thomas Chouneus*, Thomas Chowne. Even scholars and divines affected this pedantry, and that after the revival of learning, not in

England alone, but in Holland, Germany, and several other countries. Some of these attempts to put modern names into a Latin dress were extremely ridiculous. Andrew BORDE, the "original Merry Andrew," in his "Boke of the Introduction of Knowledge," written in the reign of Henry VIII. styles himself Andreas *Perforatus* (bored!) But this is nothing to the name of Sir John Hawkwood being turned into *Johannes Acutus!* Let Verstegan tell the story:

"Some gentlemen of our nation travelling into Italy and passing thorow Florence, there, in the great church, beholding the monument and epitaph of the renowned English knight, and most famous warrior of his time, there named *Johannes Acutus*, long wondered *what John Sharp this might be*, seeing in England they had never heard of any such, his name rightly written being indeed *Sir John Hawkwood*; but by omitting the H. in Latine as frivolous, and the K and W as unusual, he is here from *Hawkwood* turned into *Acutus*, and from *Acutus* returned in English again unto *Sharp!*"

Camden gives a list of latinized surnames in his Remaines.* In Wright's "Court Hand Restored,"† is a more copious catalogue, which I here copy, in the hope that it will prove useful to the antiquary, and afford some amusement to the general reader. It is certainly interesting in an etymological point of view, although not much to be depended upon in that respect. I have made a few literal and verbal alterations, but they are not of sufficient importance to need particularizing.

* Pages 130-1-2-3. † London, 1776.

A.

De Adurni portu,	Ethrington.
De Albeneio,	D'Aubeney, Albiney.
De Alba Marla,	Albemarle.
Albericus, Albrea, Aubræus vel Aubericus,	Awbrey.
De Albo Monasterio,	Whitchurch.
Ala Campi,	Wingfield.
Henricus de Aldithelcia,	Was the first Lord Audley.
De Alneto,	Dauney.
De Arcubus,	Bowes.
De Alta ripa,	Dautry.
De Aqua frisca,	Freshwater.
Aqua pontanus,	Bridgewater.
De Arida villa,	Dryton, or Drydon.
Arundelius, Arundelius, De Hirundine,	Arundel.
Johannes Avonius,	John of Northampton.
De Augo,	Owe, or Eu.
Aurifaber,	Orfeur, an antient name in Cumberland.
De Aula,	Hall.
De Aureo vado,	Goldford, or Guldeforde.

B.

Bardulphus, De Batonia, De Beaumois, De Belesmo,	Bardolph.
De Beda, vel De Bajocis,	Bacon.
De Bella aqua,	Bellew.
De Bella fide,	Beaufoy.
De Bello loco,	Beaulieu.
De Bello foco,	Beaufeu.

De Bello marisco,	Beaumarsh.
De Bello faco,	Beaufo.
De Bello campo,	Beauchamp.
De Bello monte,	Beaumont.
De Bello prato, De Bensto, De Beverlaco,	Beaupre.
De Bello situ,	Bellasise.
De Benefactis,	Benfield.
Benevolus,	Benlows.
De Bona villa,	Bonevil.
De Bono fossato,	Goodrick.
De Blostevilla,	Blovile, Blofield.
Blaunpain, alias Blancpain,*	Whitebread.
Bononius,	Bollen.
Borlasius,	Borlace.
De Bortana sive Burtana,	Burton.
De Bovis Villa,	Bovil.
De Bosco, De Braiosa,	Bois.
De Bosco Roardi,	Borhard.
De Bruera,	De Bryer, or Bryer.
De Buliaco,	Busli, or Bussey.
De Burgo,	Burgh, Burk, or Bourk.
De Burgo charo,	Bourchier.

C.

De Calvo monte,	Chaumond.
De Camera,	Chambers.
De Campania,	Champnies.
De Campo Florido,	Chamfleur.
De Campo Arnulphi,	Champernoun.

* Some few of these names are Frenchified, not Latinised.

De Capricuria and De Capreolocuria,	Chevercourt.
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D.

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Drogo (*Saxon*),	Drew.
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Dutchtius.	Doughty.

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Extranaeus,	L'Estrange.

F.

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De Fraxino,	Frene, Ashe.
De Fronte bovis,	De Grundbeof.

G.

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De Genisteto,	Bromfield.
De Grendona,	Greendon.

Giovanus,	Young.
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H.

De Hantona,	Hanton.
De Harcla,	Harkley.
Havertus, Howardus,	Howard.
De Hosata, Hosatus vel Usus Mare,	Hose, or Hussey.

I.

Jodocus,	Joice.
De Insula,	Lisle.
De Insula bona,	Lislebone.
De Insula fontis,	Lilburne.
De Ipra,	De Ipres.

K.

De Kaineto, alias Caineto,	Keynes.

L.

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De Lexintuna,	Lexington.
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Lupellus,	Lovel, or Lovet.

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N.

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De Nova mercatu,	Newmarch.

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De Solarius,	Solers.
De Spineto,	Spine.
De Stagno,	Poole.
De Stipite sicco,	De la Zouch.*
De Stratone,	Stretton.
Super Tysam,	Surteys, Surtees.
De Sudburia,	Sudbury.
De Suthleia, and Sutleia,	Suthley, or Sudley.
De Sylva,	Weld.

T.

De Tanaia,	Taney.
De Tankardivilla,	Tankerville.
Teutonicus,	Teys.
De Tulka,	Toke, Tuke.
De Turbidavilla,	Turberville.
Turchetissus,	Turchill.

* For William de la Zouch, archbishop of Yorke, is so called in this verse, for his valour in an encounter against the Scottishmen at Bearparke, 1342:

"Est pater inuictus *sicco destipite* dictus."

Camden, Rem. p. 133.

De Turri,	Towers.
De Parva Turri,	Torel, Tirel.
De Turpi vado,	Fulford.

v.

De Vado Saxi,	Stanford.
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De Vallibus,	Vaux.
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De Villa torta,	Croketon.
De Villariis,	Villers.
De Villa magna,	Mandevile.
De Vino salvo,	Vinesalf.
De Umbrosa quercu,	Dimoak, now Dymock.
De Urtico,	Lorti, Lort.

w.

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De Warnevilla vel Willoughbæus,	Willoughby.
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> ' Whoso buyeth anything,
> Hit is hys ant his offspryng.'

' Whosoever buys anything, it belongs to him and his offspring.' Christ ends that the apple with which Satan bought Adam was his (Christ's) pro- y, and tells the devil that he must submit, as 'Ambes-ars' has fallen to him; ther words, that Satan has cast the dice, and has only both aces. After h discussion the Saviour arrives at the gates of hell.

> ' Helle gates y come now to,
> And y wole that heo* un do
> Wer ys now this gateward?
> Me thuncketh he is a coward.'

e ' gateward,' or porter of hell, runs away, saying,

> ' Ich have herd wordes stronge,
> Ne dar y her no lengore stonde;
> Kepe the gates whoso may
> Y lete them stonde ant renne away.'

ıe Saviour binds Satan in hell ' till that come domesday,' and apparently with- ıt any resistance: he is then received by Adam, Eve, Abraham, David, St. hn the Baptist, and Moses. Adam says,

> ' Welcome louerd† god of londe
> Godes sone ant godes sonde‡
> Welcome louerd mote thou be
> That thou wolt us come and se.'

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